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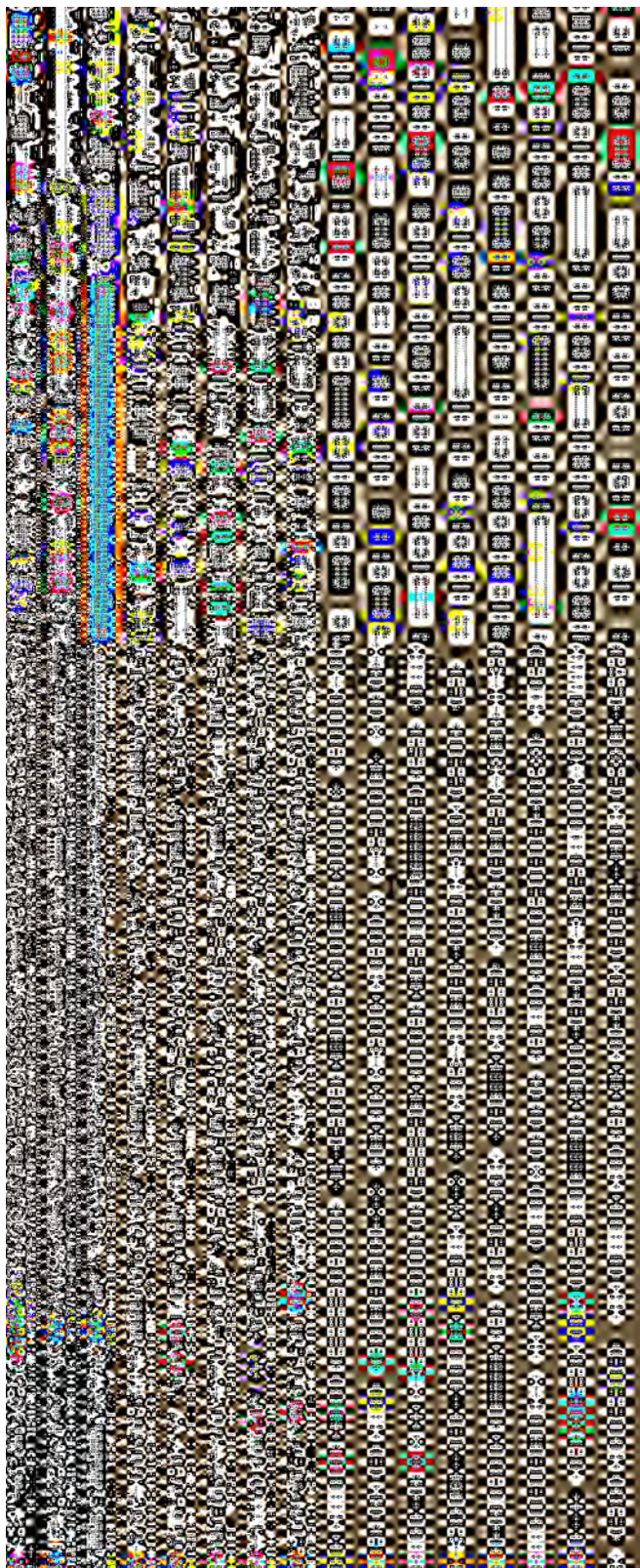
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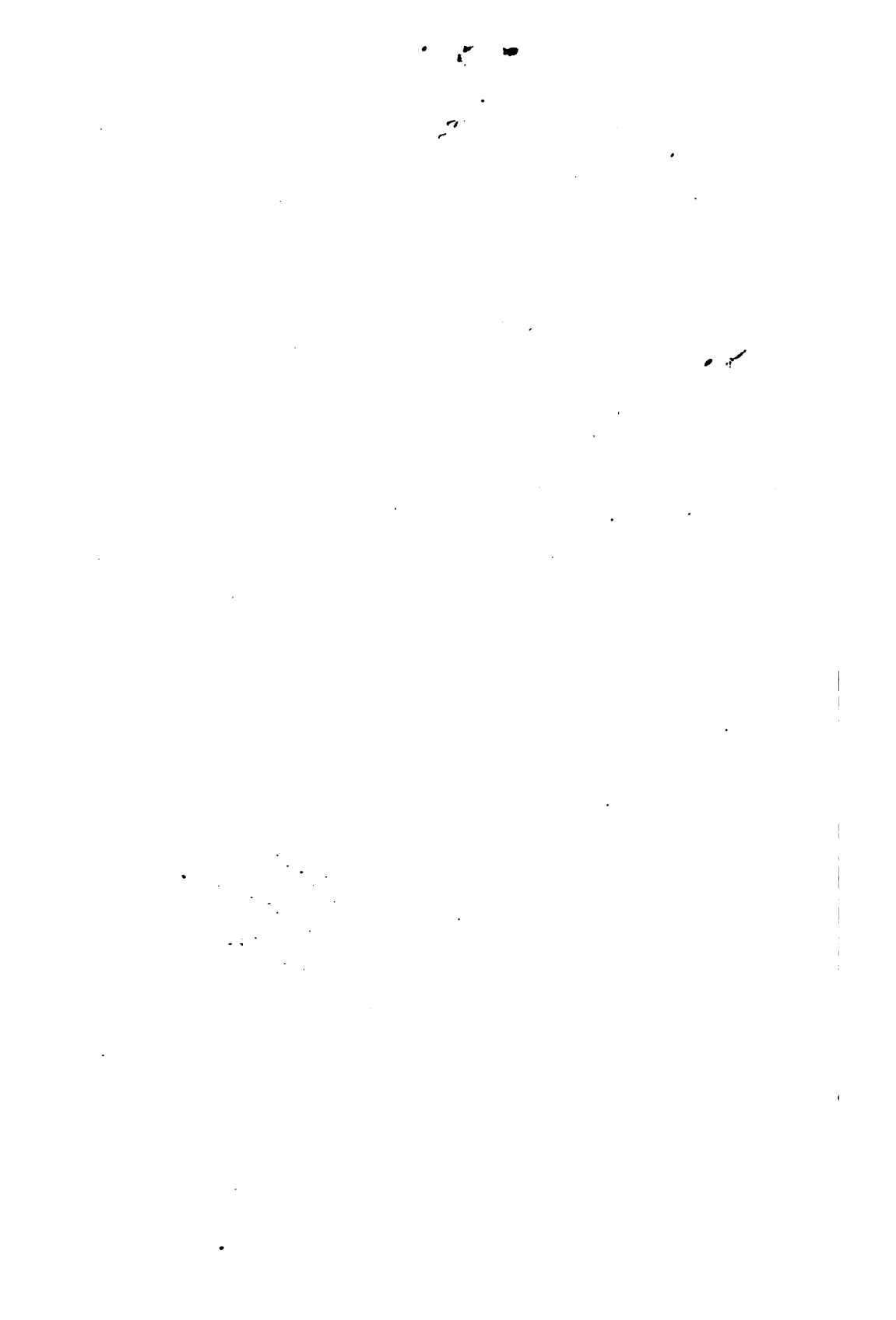
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RECORDS
OF
STEAM BOILER EXPLOSIONS,

BY
EDWARD BINDON MARTEN,

MEM. INST. OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS; ASSOCIATE OF INSTITUTION OF

CIVIL ENGINEERS, AND CHIEF ENGINEER TO THE

MIDLAND STEAM BOILER INSPECTION AND ASSURANCE CO.



LONDON:

E. & F. N. SPON, 48, CHARING CROSS.

STOURBRIDGE:

R. BROOMHALL, 148, HIGH STREET,

1869.

186.e.42

P R E F A C E.

ACCURATE information as to Boiler Explosions must always be useful to those who are interested in the safe working of Steam Boilers.

The following pages contain very brief abstracts of records obtained for the Midland Steam Boiler Inspection and Assurance Company, by whose permission they are now republished in a compact and convenient form.

By permission of the Council of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, the records are prefaced by a paper on Steam Boiler Explosions and their records, and on Inspection as a means of prevention, read before that Institution at Manchester, August 1st, 1866.

All names of Works or Firms are omitted from the records as unnecessary.

ON STEAM BOILER EXPLOSIONS AND THEIR RECORDS, AND ON
INSPECTION AS A MEANS OF PREVENTION, BY EDWARD B. MARTEN,
MEM. INST. M.E. A.I.C.E., EXCERPT MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE
MEETING OF THE INSTITUTION OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS, AT
MANCHESTER, 1ST AUGUST, 1866, JOSEPH WHITWORTH, ESQ.,
PRESIDENT, IN THE CHAIR. BY PERMISSION OF THE COUNCIL.

THE subject of Steam Boiler Explosions, which was brought before this Institution in June, 1848, in a paper by the late Mr. William Smith of Dudley in reference to an explosion near that place, and again in 1859 in a paper by Mr. Longridge on the economy and durability of stationary boilers, is one of great importance and is now attracting increased attention. The first public notice of the subject was by a parliamentary committee in 1817, which was appointed in consequence of a very fatal boiler explosion in London in 1815; evidence was then collected as to steamboats, and many boiler explosions were referred to. That committee recommended among other things that boilers should be made of wrought iron, instead of cast iron or copper, which had been the materials mainly used previously; that they should be inspected and tested; and that there should be two safety valves, each loaded to one third of the test pressure, under penalties for any excess. A great part of the information now existing upon the subject, especially in regard to the earlier explosions, is to be found in the records of inquests after fatal cases; and some of the careful reports of eminent engineers on those occasions have materially assisted in the formation of correct views as to the causes of explosion. Latterly also the printed reports of the inspectors of mines, and more especially the reports of the explosions of locomotives, illustrated by diagrams by the inspectors of railways, have furnished very valuable information. Since the subject has been taken up by private associations for the

prevention of explosions, many more records have been published, although their usefulness is much impaired by their not containing the names of the places whereby the explosions could be identified.

When the writer's attention was first directed to this subject, he met with great difficulty in obtaining correct records of boiler explosions, from which to arrive at the results of past experience; and wishing to base his own opinion on facts, rather than on the inferences of others however reliable, he followed the example of the Franklin Institute in their elaborate investigation of the subject, and collected all the records he could find; and by way of facilitating reference, arranged an index, a manuscript copy of which is presented with the present paper to the Library of this Institution. All must be agreed as to the importance of reliable information on such accidents as boiler explosions; and the writer would suggest that this Institution may materially aid in obtaining the desired records and placing them within easy access, by becoming the depository of reports on explosions, and by inducing those who have the opportunity to forward copies of reports, that these may be arranged so as to be easily found and consulted. It is very desirable that these reports should as far as possible be illustrated by sketches, as aids to the description; and also by slight models like those now shown to the meeting, by which the whole matter may be seen at a glance. So few persons comparatively have the opportunity of examining boilers after explosion, that the most erroneous ideas have prevailed, and theories have been advanced which would soon be dissipated by practical experience or by reading accurate reports. It would also very much aid in the understanding of published matter on the subject, if full descriptions of each case alluded to in illustration could be obtained. These records are as useful to the engineer as the "precedents" or "cases" to the lawyer or the surgeon. After any serious explosion, the newspapers of the neighbourhood in which it has occurred contain voluminous articles describing the disastrous result and the damage done, which, although useful as far as they go, do not in the least assist in arriving at the cause of explosion. The really important particulars, such as the description

and construction of the boiler, its dimensions, and the pressure at which it worked, are in most cases omitted altogether.

The record of explosions presented to the Institution contains a list of the boiler explosions in each year of the present century, as far as known to the writer, with the names of the places, and the description and sizes of the boilers, and the supposed cause of explosion, together with references to the books or papers from which further information may be obtained. Of course many of the explosions have to be put down as uncertain in some of the particulars; but every year improves the record, as fresh information is obtained, and with the assistance of the members of this Institution it might be made far more perfect and extensive.

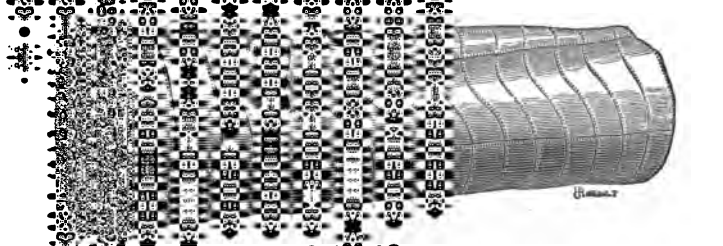
The total number of explosions here recorded is 1046, and they caused the death of 4076 persons and the injury of 2903. The causes assigned for the several explosions are very numerous, and are no doubt incorrect in many cases; but they may be generally stated as follows:

- 397 are too uncertain to place under any heading; but of the rest 145 were from the boilers being worn out, or from corrosion, or from deteriorated plates or rivets.
- 137 from over pressure, from safety valves being wedged or overweighted, in some cases intentionally, or from other acts of carelessness.
- 125 from faulty construction of boiler or fittings, want of stays, or neglect of timely repair.
- 119 from collapse of internal tubes, generally from insufficient strength.
- 114 from shortness of water, or from scurf preventing the proper contact of the water with the plates; or from improper setting so as to expose the sides of the boiler to the flame above the water line.
- 9 from extraneous causes, such as effect of lightning striking down the stacks upon the boilers, or from fire in the building or explosion of gas in the flues.

1046 total number of explosions.

ing descriptions :—
under any head ; but of
oilers internally fired.
lar boilers.
ally fired.
Butterley, British-tube,
or crane boilers.
oilers.
dling or mill furnaces at

person have been numerous.
when the steam was used
pressure in the boiler was
pressure, many boilers
atmospheric pressure
collapsed or crumpled up ;
valve still found on old
a boiler in the neighbour-
this way by collapse from
the accident is shown in Fig. 1.



early explosions were so
of the accidents, which compared with
constructed, that no one

thought of any other cause than the insufficient strength of the vessel to bear the expansive force of the steam contained in it. When the advantages of high-pressure steam became recognized, and the boilers were improved so as to bear the increased strain, the tremendous havoc caused by an explosion led many to think that something more must be required than the expansive force of the steam to produce such an effect; and they appear to have attributed to steam under certain conditions a detonating force, or a sudden access of expansive power that overcame all resistance. To support this somewhat natural supposition, it was asserted that the steam became partially decomposed into its constituent gases, forming an explosive mixture within the boiler. That this belief is still sometimes entertained is seen from the verdict of a jury even in the present year, 1866, in the case of the explosion of a plain cylindrical boiler at Leicester, shown in Fig. 2., the real

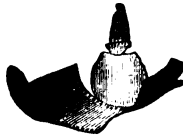


Fig. 2.

cause of which appears to have been that the shell of the boiler was weakened by the manhole. It seems hardly necessary to point out the fallacy of imagining decomposition and recombination of the steam to take place in succession in the same vessel without the introduction of any new element for causing a change of chemical combination; but it is necessary to refer to this supposition, as the idea is shown to be not yet extinct.

Again it has been asserted that the steam when remaining quite still in the boiler becomes heated much beyond the temperature due to the pressure; and that therefore when it is stirred or mixed or brought more in contact with the water by the opening of a valve or other cause, the water evaporates so rapidly as to produce an excessive pressure by accumulation of steam. In support of this view the frequency of explosions upon the starting of the engine after a short stand is adduced; but it is very doubtful whether by this means a sufficient extra pressure could be produced to cause an explosion,

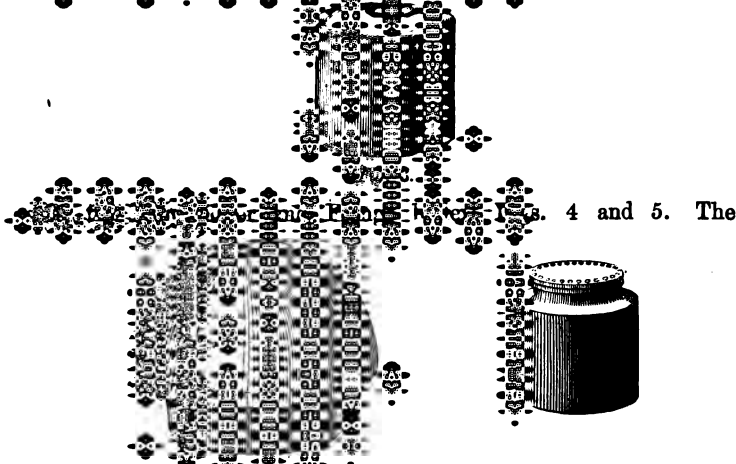
unless the boiler had been previously working up to within a very small margin of its strength. Explosions are seldom caused by a sudden increase of pressure, but rather by the pressure gradually mounting to the bursting point, when of course the effect is sudden enough. Nor is it necessary in many cases to look for much increase of pressure as the cause of explosion; for it is far more often the case that the strength of the boiler has gradually degenerated by wear or corrosion, until unable to bear even the ordinary working pressure. It is so very easy, when examining the scene of an explosion, for the first cause of rupture to be confounded with the causes of the subsequent mischief, that in many cases erroneous conclusions have been arrived at in this way.

The most important points to find out in connection with any explosion are the condition of the boiler and all belonging to it immediately before the explosion, together with the locality of the first rent, the direction of the line of rupture, and the nature of the fracture; as everything occurring after the instant of the first rent is an effect and not a cause of explosion. As soon as the first rent has taken place, the balance of strain in the fabric is disturbed, and therefore the internal pressure has greatly increased power in continuing the rupture; and also the pressure being then removed from the surface of the water, which is already heated to the temperature of the steam, the whole body of the water gives out its heat in the form of steam at a considerable pressure, and thus supplies the volume of steam for carrying on the work of destruction. When thus quickly generated, the steam perhaps carries part of the water with it in the same way that it does in ordinary priming; and it has been thought by some that the impact of the water is thus added to that of the steam, to aid in the shock given to all surrounding obstacles.

It is seldom that one out of a bed of boilers explodes without more or less injury to the others on either side of it; but sometimes two boilers in one bed, or three, or even five, have exploded simultaneously.

The causes of boiler explosions may be considered under the two general heads of—

itself as originally
 says, bad material,
 and
 either from wear and
 water or accumulation
 of general thinning,
 ; or from flaws or
 of repeated strain ;
 adequate arrangements
 explosions were from
 now used were then
 easier to work were
 selected as the one
 of copper or cast
 the weakest possible
 shown in Fig. 3.



4 and 5. The

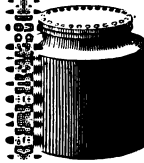
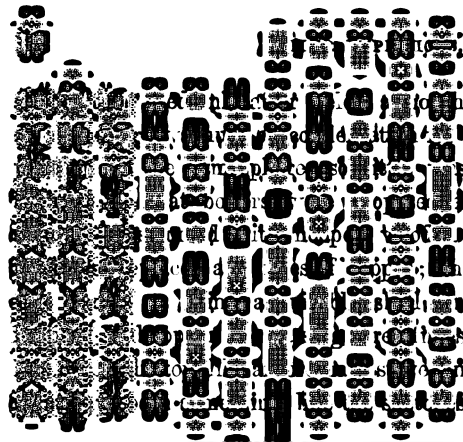
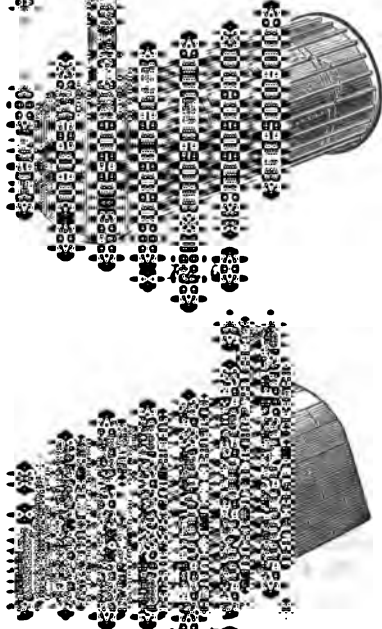


Fig. 5.

referred to by the
 was of a cast-iron
 thin to bear the
 The steam being



to the external pressure as a means
working by the external
pressure of the steam
and it is believed were
shells, like barrels, and
and even a stone chamber
a boiler, with internal
the length of the inside
and piping. These boilers
given in Figs. 6 and 7,



to the external pressure of the

of boilers, with an
shown in Fig. 8,



Fig. 9.

and in use at some
the outside shell and
exposed to any wear at all,
the front plate with
in case of need.
in Fig. 9., made
of cast iron, with an internal
When cast iron
boilers intended for high
pressure of tubes of small
diameter, so much
of the elementary committee
consisted of nine cast-



long, set in brickwork

These small tubes were placed transversely above the boiler, and again with a still larger number of details of any explosions had been obtained; but it is not treacherous material, and that the effect of the boiler burst at once was out with great velocity, in the circumstance of large case with wrought-iron

the shapes were most than before. One of the Fig. 11, with round top

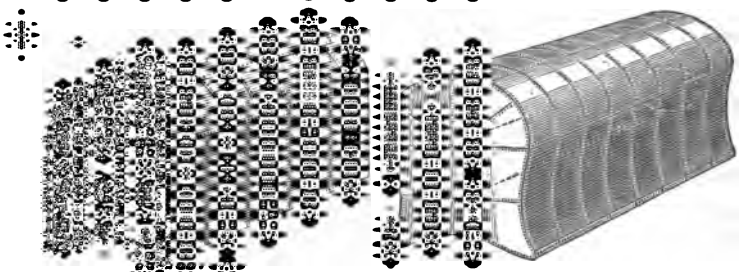
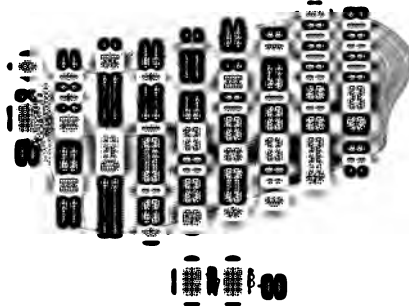


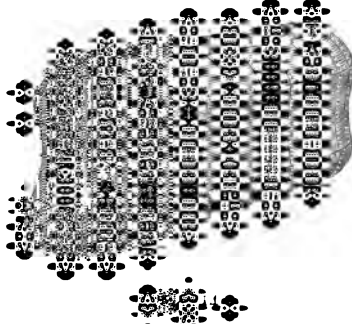
Fig. 12.

made to bear even the with numerous stays. In boiler the bottom was being weakened by the under each variation of must be constantly explosion at Chester in shape of iron improved in its steam concave instead of flat, as force was greater and also

flame in the flues.
ends as in Fig 13,



correspond with the
will required numerous



of the boiler being
explosions show, the
the way at the bottom,
in 1842, where the
they also sometimes

direction consisted in
boilers still exist that

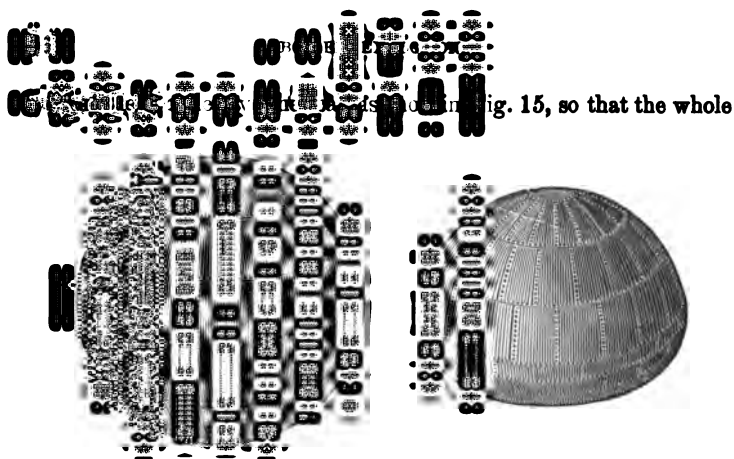
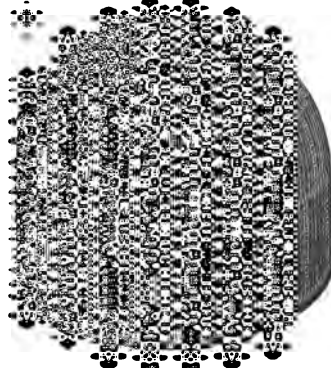


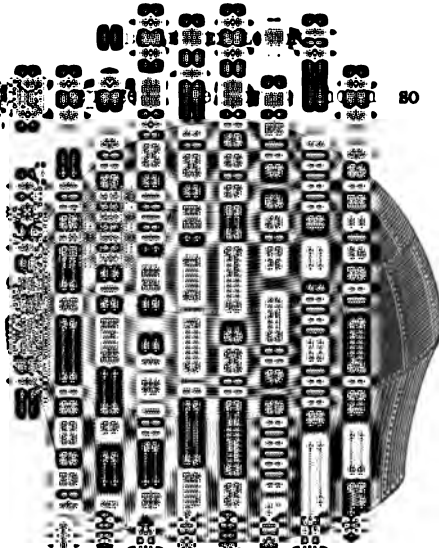
Fig. 16.

required no assistance to alter its shape under the great disadvantage of its size or cubic surface for its size or cubic weight from sediment on the central spot. The spherical shape shown in Fig. 16, by being convex; and afterwards concave bottom, with the



of single iron, as in Figs. 17

so well in the

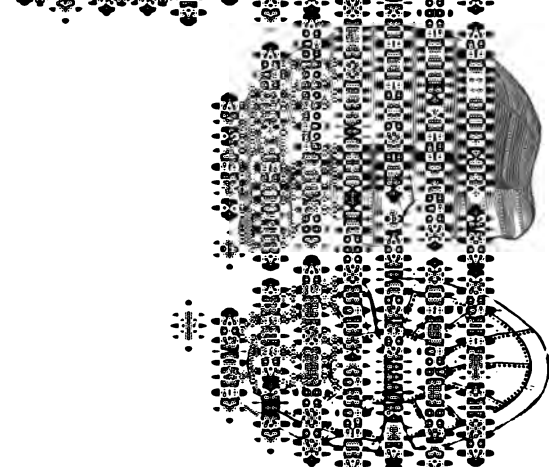


or Haystack boiler. Great size, measuring such water and steam. Perhaps no form because of the great use of the inherent have not been obtained because they seldom attract much attention, positions at collieries. down into the fireplace angle iron round the constant springing of ; and the weakness on the brickwork of this continued model exhibited. The boilers upon stays for as 12 and 15 feet later has been the place at Smethwick

As the force of the

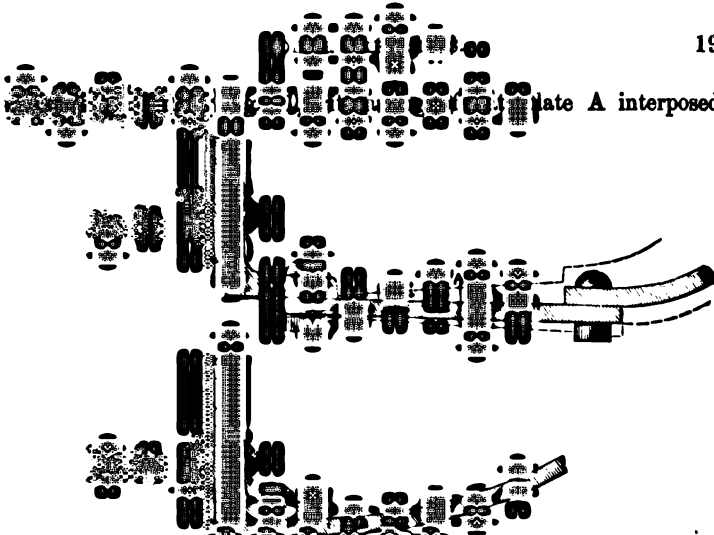


bottom giving way, and
reaction of the issuing
example that occurred
where the explosion was



being torn off all round
into two pieces; while
in one mass, and were
thickness of this boiler had
angle of angle iron, as

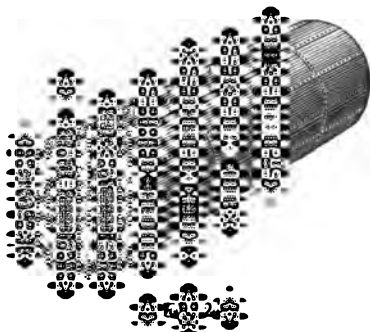
late A interposed



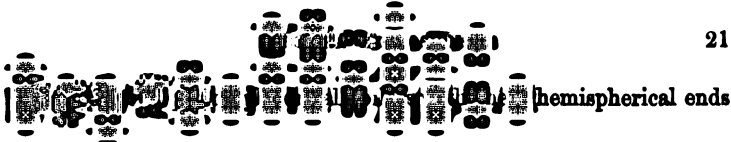
bottom of the boiler ;
 as shown by the
 which was accordingly
 been made to rise
 springing could not
 have had to stand
 rigid bottom ; but as
 the concavity was
 to bear an up and
 Fig. 21, and the
 have been if the

shown in Fig. 23,

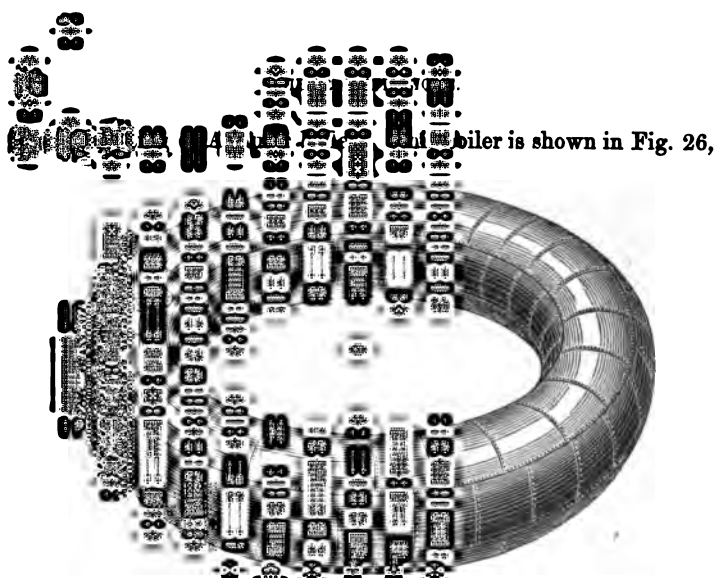
increased by an internal
 arched and curved flue
 within the boiler before
 construction however must
 the boiler greatly. In
 by the dotted lines,
 boilers by lessening the
 of the Plain Cylindrical
 ends of cast iron, which
 exposed to the fire, as
 plusions. The flat ends
 g. 24, are exposed to the



and wagon boilers, and are
 pressure like drum heads,
 they also require long stays
 are subject to so much
 and for long together,
 and cotters.
 always being sprung by
 or less spherical shape,
 this consideration no
 spherical, as shown in

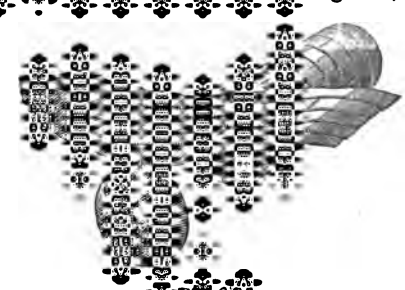


and no other form of boiler, as the whole of the boiler has no tendency to warp or model exhibited. The surface of the plain boiler is so easily cleaned and worked at every part and is equally to view. The boilers externally are cleaned by the action of steam from accumulators and are prevented from rusting by the direct action of steam as 70 or 80 feet, as in the case of last furnaces, these are "overheated," owing to the intense flame for its effect. The boiler by exposure to the heat of the furnace have a succession of small cracks, and where great length is required, the extreme length of the boiler is not until the ends met



boiler is shown in Fig. 26,

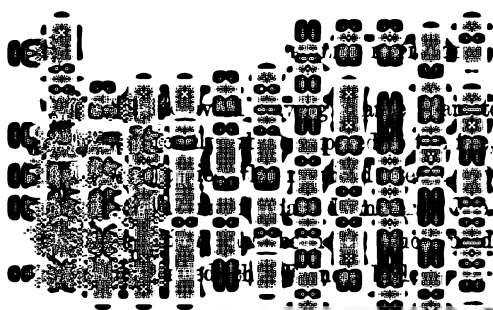
the internal diameter of the ring, has been found to work well for the heat of six puddling furnaces. These have been very frequent in the proportionate number of positions at colliery and Fig. 27, represents an



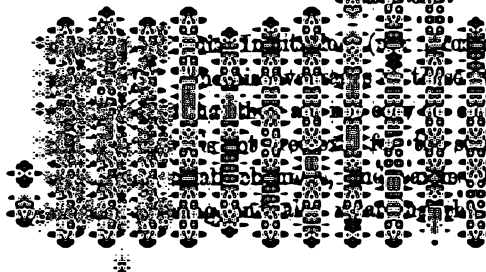
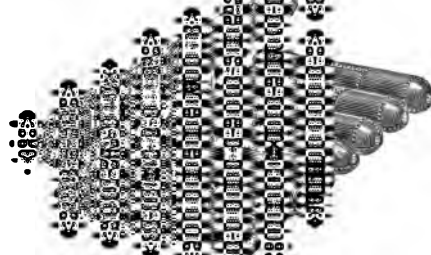
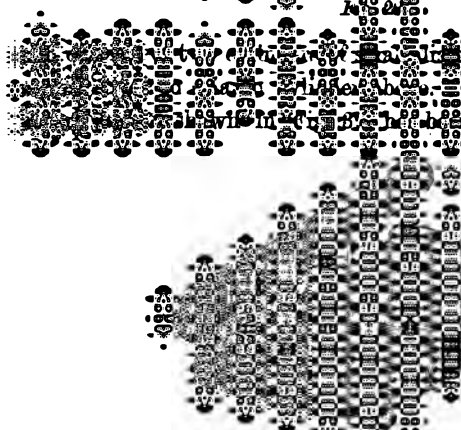
in 1863, and illustrates the principle. They generally open for the purpose which has become determining proper contact of the

or quality injured,
 or loosened. The
 direction to the sound
 at the other end
 then runs up each
 the shell to open
 the boiler, which
 that an explosion
 sight of the various
 At held in contact
 due observation of
 model exhibited,

lower part of the
 the liberated part
 fell some distance
 side from which
 on examination,
 of the bottom,
 angle iron of the
 above. This seam
 turned, and they
 chanced off, but not
 the diverting
 flew off at a tangent,
 the sound upper

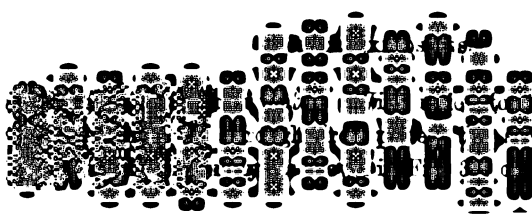


meter for plain cylindrical
boilers have been used
ever by a combination of
of these known as the
in France that it is
is shown in Fig. 29,



meter connected by upright
Another form called the
described at a previous

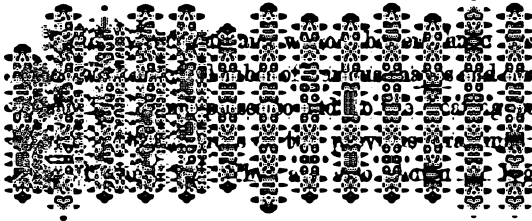
Recordings Inst. M. E. 1855
two combinations of plain
can or examine internally,
system, which has to find its
the water away with it,
generation of steam and



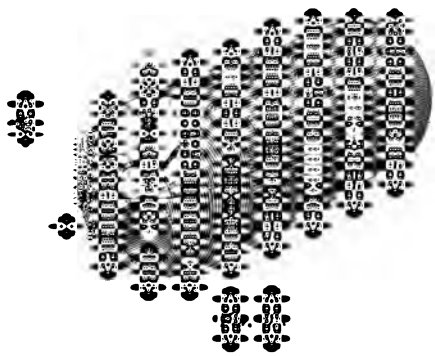
strengthen the plain
are sometimes
the principle that,



the transverse the
greatest amount of



many years been
arrangement, through
surface. These are
of wagon boilers,
32, where a tube

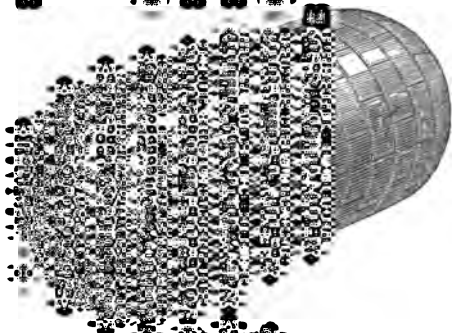


plain cylindrical

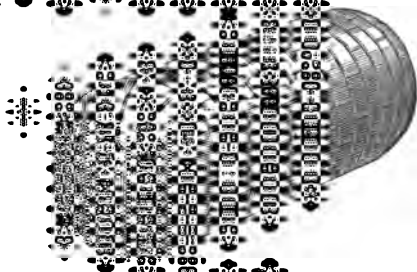
the sides to the front : in



returns over the fire and



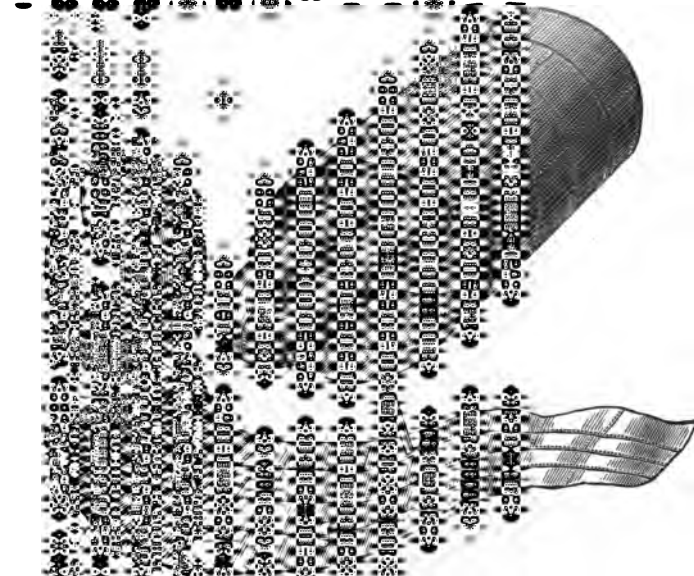
35 a tube from the back



side. The boilers in all
tion of tubes has tended
boilers in order to make

of 9, 10, and even
ed externally is
ed in the plain
clean on account
. When the flame
n of these large
ptful whether the
eration of steam;
of water in the

taken place by
y by the failure
sketch Fig. 36,

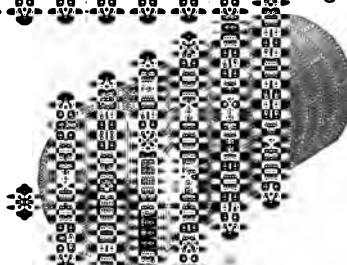


hampton in 1865,
ver the fire where
h of longitudinal
ates over the fire
seams completely

shown in one flat piece, as the main body of the boiler with the bottom and top head taken away. Several of the forms of construction known as the wagon-shaped end over



a plain cylindrical shell generate steam very rapidly; when placed over the fire and along the length of the tube the front end of the tube widens into a large, rounded fireplace, has led to the form now made of this form. The first boiler of this form in Edinburgh in 1821 was of a wagon-topped fireplace form of boiler occurred in 1854, and at the present time is facing the fire inside the



as shown in Fig. 38,

ed in Cornwall gave
 eding good duty
 ve them the most
 great number of
 that have happened,
 the boiler shown in
 increased but the



diameter in the same
 the two-tube boiler,
 along various particular
 made to unite into
 what is known
 40, and in other

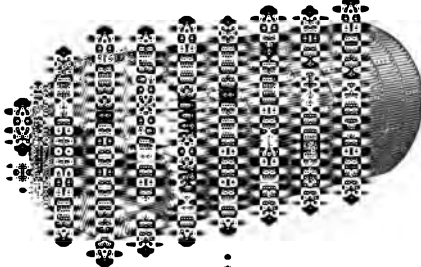
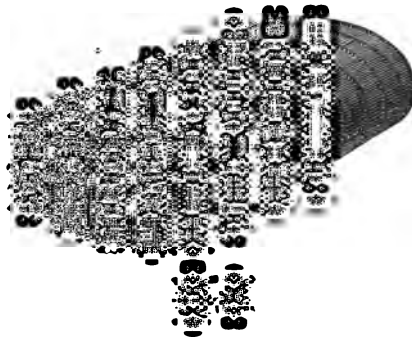


Fig. 20.

been made oval, as

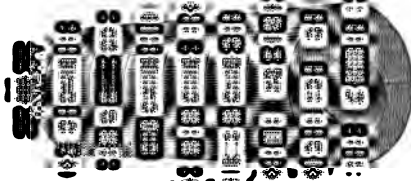
ed through from end



When increased, and the smaller transverse tubes advantages are gained by to greater difficulty in

When used for high pressure experiments, led to the use of different makes of tubes which the shell and the tubes when exposed to a great many boilers large tubes without the use of such boilers are used in boilers, one boiler after the tube from the want of the tube have still been believed in the use of boilers of this construction extremely numerous, yet the use of the tube has been considered A sketch of a boiler

which exploded at

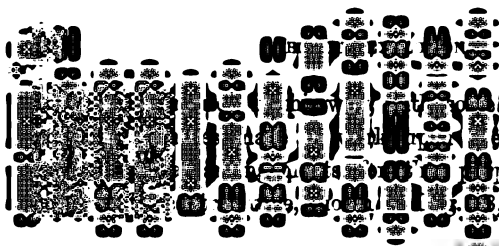


from many others
ated, and was a good
resist high external
at the support of

ular boiler internally
st tension is not also
is in the midst of
ed from it; and the
which most steam
ver above it for the
boilers heated from
ends; and the mud
would do mischief, and
harmless.

to disadvantages
about within them
cylindrical boiler, as
ference of expansion
comparatively cool shell
out; or if the ends
in the tube, which
iron softer or more
Notwithstanding
an excellent one.

have been made to
heat from various
the plain cylindrical



times as many as eight boiler. One of the purpose was the Upright, which was originally

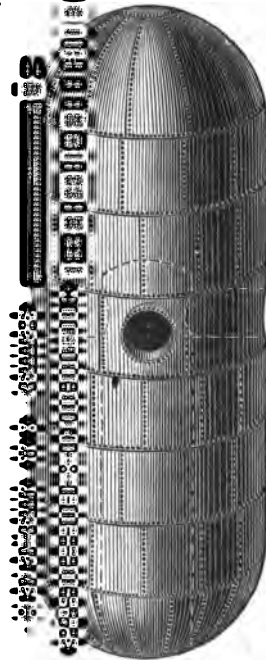
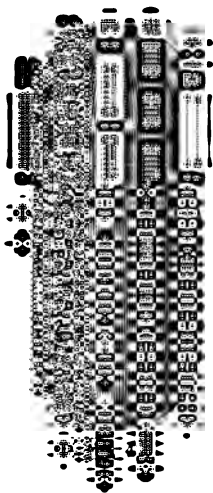


Fig. 44.

meter and 16 feet high. diameter and 28 feet are made for one, two, consist of a cylinder with central tube from the side tubes join. portion of the shell, and the centre tube into there is great heating and does not strain the

as in the horizontal; and as both ends are under internal pressure. The position of the boiler is such that the steam is not liable to priming; and yet the steam is not liable to priming; and is not liable to priming, as a man can see. But the great danger is that they do not stand in the midst of an explosion, not more liable to burst than they do burst they are the case with other boilers when employed at the same pressure. It is not desirable to make it desirable to make it desirable, as the case is. Also an explosion of iron being scattered. The explosion at Dudley has arisen from the explosion at Dudley of iron plate forming

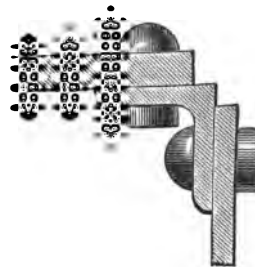


Fig. 46.

the sides of the tube by
as shown in Fig. 46, that the
fairly sheared the angle
down down the centre
the boiler was violently
issuing steam and water

is used in connection with
the furnace working into each
boiler can be placed a
very fatal explosions have
in 1862.

have been much used in
boiler standing on end,
the flame passing up the
in the form of a chimney
The tube passes through
that the plate is not
by contact with water ;
in some instances,
been lined on the inside
plate from the flame.
of this Chimney boiler
between the tube and the shell
impossible to examine

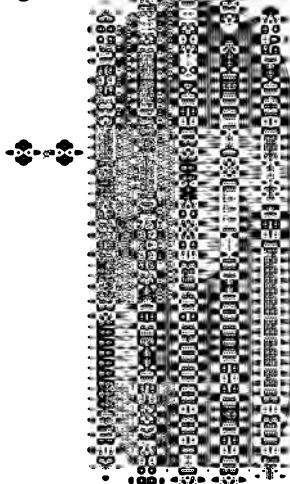
a single-furnace boiler
shown in Fig. 48, where the
in the previous boiler

various shapes have been

large size that has



, with an internal for increasing the



in such a way that the exterior shell 1863, resulted from the general form, but the details of construction.

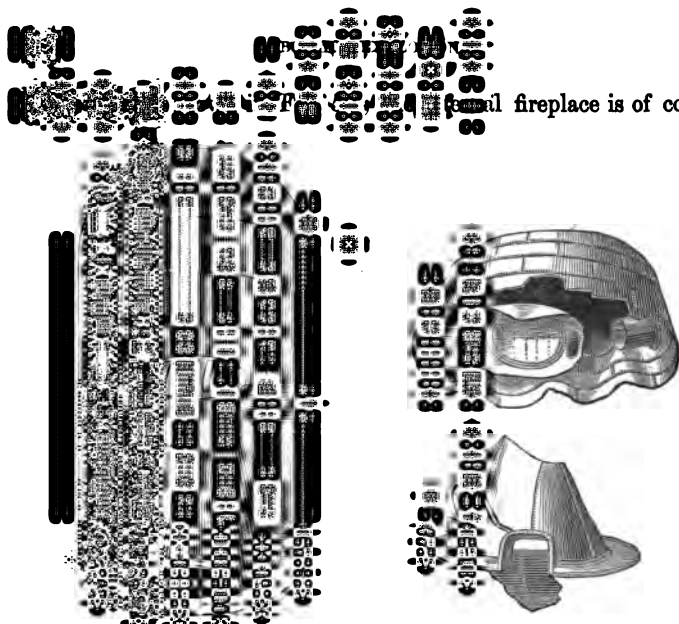


Fig. 51.

6 ft. 10 ins. at bottom, a flat annular bottom. With pressure the conical bottom at the top of the cone, as shown in Fig. 51. The flat bottom of the cone and side tubes, were blown out on; and the top flew up in a conical heap, as shown in Fig. 51. The result was that a boiler of such construction would explode.

A large and varied class of steam engines, the object of avoiding the use of small pipes of small diameter, was first used when steam carriages were first used. A number of small pipes, set in a common receiver with a general receiver of steam. These were found to

have such small circulation of water that they very soon burnt out, and also led to much priming. Afterwards, narrow chambers made of corrugated plates set like the cells of a battery were tried, but without much success. The multitubular boilers of the locomotive type soon superseded all others as quick steam generators, and until lately they have been considered as almost absolutely safe from explosion. It is found however that the barrel of these boilers is peculiarly liable to furrowing, owing to the strain weakening the iron in certain lines. Perhaps no boiler shows more clearly than the locomotive how necessary it is that every part should be open to examination; and also how unwise it would be to use for stationary purposes small cramped up boilers, only intended to meet the necessities of locomotion. Many explosions of locomotive boilers have taken place; but it is not necessary to give details in this paper, as they are fully given in the published official reports of the government inspectors.

Among the form of boilers designed to obtain very rapid generation of steam, combined with increased safety from explosion, may be specially named that consisting of a system of small pipes within a shell with an artificial circulation of water, and also the boiler consisting of a cluster of cast-iron spheres, both of which have been described at previous meetings of the Institution (see Proceedings Inst. M. E. 1861 page 30, and 1864 page 61); but neither has been much used in this country at present. The boilers also which consist chiefly of small tubes hanging down into the fire, with smaller tubes or other arrangements within them for securing a natural circulation, deserve mention, as they appear successfully to accomplish that end.

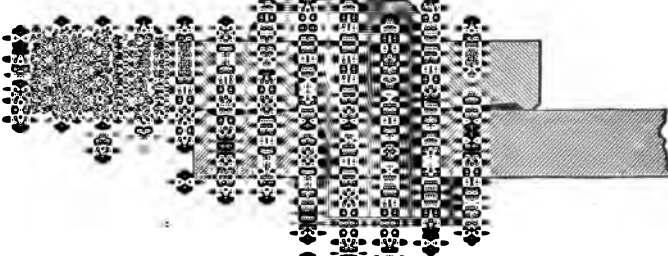
The principle of all these small boilers appears to be that only a small quantity of water should be contained in them, so that there should not be a reservoir of danger in the shape of a mass of highly heated water ready to be converted into steam if a rupture takes place: and it cannot be denied that this is an advantage. But on the other hand these boilers of small capacity, which evaporate their whole contents in a few minutes, are subject to new dangers from

that very cause; and although admirably adapted for purposes where steam is wanted quickly on a sudden emergency, as in the case of fire engines, or where the generating power required varies each moment, as in the locomotive, they are for the most part ill adapted for ordinary stationary purposes, such as the mill or the colliery. They require constant firing and vigilant attention to the feed, and cannot be left for a time with safety like the ordinary stationary boilers. It has to be borne in mind also that the very reservoir of danger so much dreaded is also a reservoir of power, which assists in the steady maintenance of the machinery in motion. The large mass of water heated to the evaporating point, the heated brickwork of the flues, and the large fireplace, are so many assistances to regularity, and enable the man in charge to attend to his other duties without the risk of spoiling the boiler or letting down the steam by a few minutes' absence from the stoke hole. Steam employers are found at present to prefer the known dangers of the large boilers to the supposed safety of small boilers, which they fear are troublesome in practice.

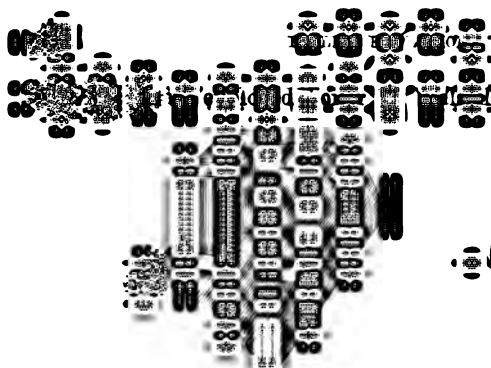
Many of the early boilers were rendered weak by the injudicious manner of arranging the seams. The longitudinal seams were made in a continuous line from end to end, as shown in Fig. 24, page 20, with the transverse seams also continued completely round the boiler, so that at the corner of each plate there were four thicknesses of iron. The crossing of the seams, as in Fig. 25, page 21, adds much to the strength, and also often prevents a rent from continuing forward to a dangerous extent.

It is scarcely requisite to mention the necessity of good material and workmanship to secure strength in a boiler, however perfect the design. If the plates are of weak and brittle iron, or imperfectly manufactured, they will never make a good boiler. Apart from the strain upon the boiler when at work, the iron has to undergo the strain of the necessary manipulation, shaping, and punching, during the construction of the boiler. If the plates forming the boiler are not well fitted to their places before the rivet holes are

by using the drift in
 then using imperfect
 and with each other;
 forwards by excessive
 which is sure to show
 most unequal internal
 to work at all; and
 expansion causes undue
 ultimately to disaster.
 ing were exhibited to
 own in Fig. 52.



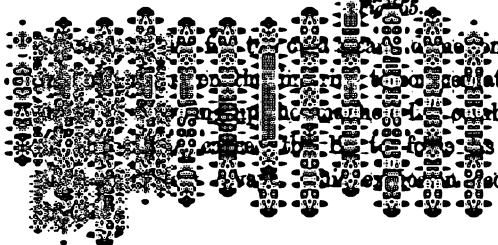
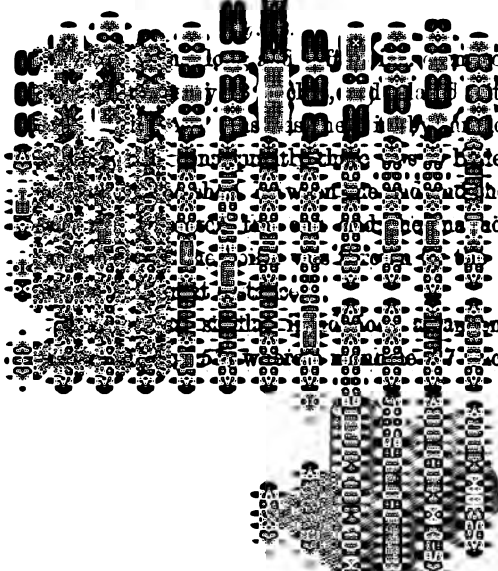
much lessened by the
 are fixed upon the
 of this defect. Not
 of the boiler in one
 Steam domes are
 of the boiler, the hole
 of the dome; and
 been made square or
 as shown in Fig. 53.
 properly arranged
 boilers they are often
 of the
 as in the sketch,



in 1865. This boiler



Fig. 54.



er, and yet the manhole within a few inches of one side of the iron, which was not of great strength at the small diameter of the manhole that it gave a considerable lid, after which the reaction across several

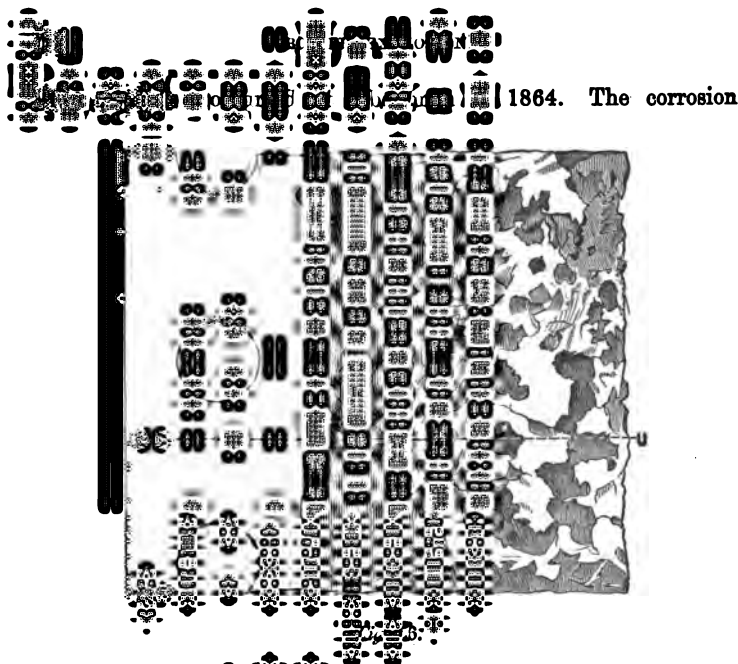
ment of the manhole is 7 inches by 14 inches was

only 2 ft. 6ins. diameter, and was adequate for it. The repeated combined with the pressure was way out through the occurred at Birmingham

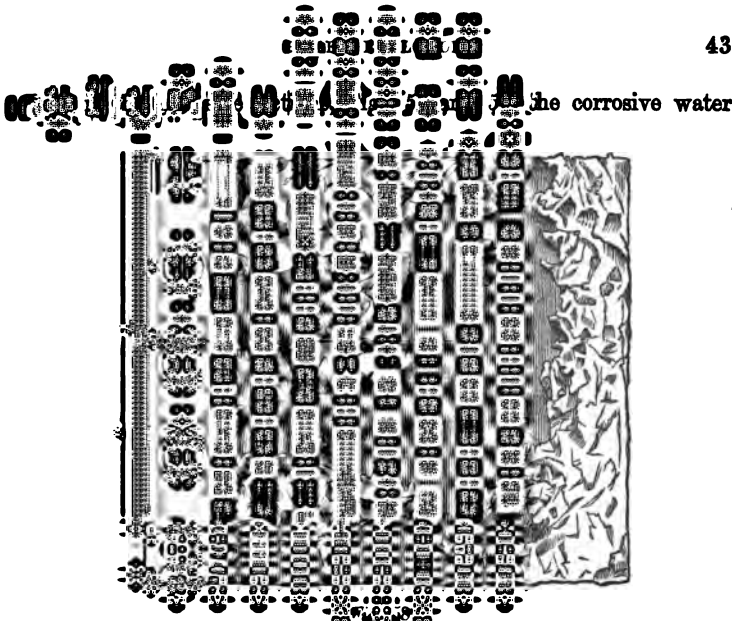
The preceding examples have shown how explosions often result from faults in the construction of boilers; and the following instances illustrate the explosions caused by mischief arising during working. A boiler perhaps more than any other structure is subject to wear and tear; and let it be worked ever so carefully, it will seriously deteriorate. The wonder is, considering the work they have to perform, that so many boilers are found which have worked twenty, thirty, or even fifty years without explosion. The terms wear and tear however are too vague for this subject, and the mischief met with must be considered under distinct heads.

There is no doubt that the thing most to be dreaded for boilers is corrosion; because when the plate is once thinned, it cannot be strengthened again, but must remain permanently weakened. Corrosion the more deserves attention because it is easily detected by moderate vigilance, and can generally be prevented by moderate care, or by the boilers being so arranged that they can be readily examined in every part. Corrosion has been the direct and unmistakeable cause of a very large proportion of the explosions that have happened: it occurs both inside and outside the boiler, according to circumstances, and attacks the iron in various ways and in different places.

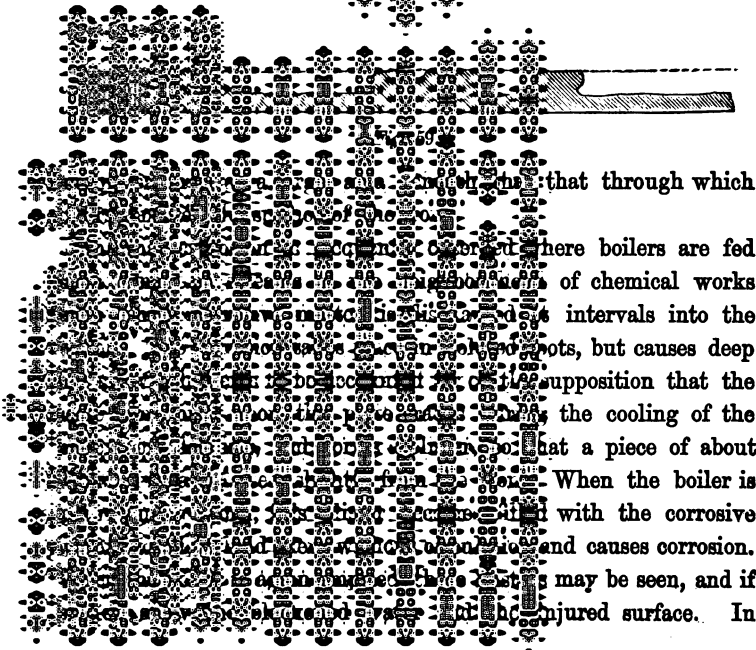
Internal corrosion sometimes takes place from bad feed water, and its effects are different in extent in the different parts of the same boiler. It very seldom thins the plate over a large surface regularly, but attacks the iron in spots, pitting it in a number of holes. These are sometimes large, as if gradually increasing from a centre of action; and sometimes small, but so close together as to leave very little more space whole than that which is attacked. A very curious example of the latter was exhibited to the meeting, and shown in Figs. 56 and 57, cut from the lower part of the shell of a large tubular boiler externally fired. The corrosion was greatest along that part of the shell most exposed to heat, and was so extensive that two boilers exploded simultaneously. The boilers had been at work sixteen years, but the corrosion commenced about eight years before the explosion, when the feed water was rendered corrosive by being obtained from some iron mines.



and was not considered to the extent to which it extended in the half size section, the corrosion was exhibited to the extent of the sweep plate which had worked about ten years, and attacked the iron scale. The protection of the feed water is worthy of consideration. It is seen that the corrosion has not been chipped off over the hollow, as



the corrosive water



that through which

here boilers are fed
of chemical works
intervals into the
spots, but causes deep
supposition that the
the cooling of the
that a piece of about
When the boiler is
with the corrosive
and causes corrosion.
may be seen, and if
injured surface. In

future working each of these blisters forms a constant unprotected point for attack. It is frequently seen further that such corrosion is arrested if water be used which deposits scurf; but fresh blisters and renewed corrosion will result from a return to the use of the bad water.

The internal corrosion called furrowing has proved a frequent cause of explosion, especially in locomotive boilers. It differs from other corrosion by being in deep narrow continuous lines with abrupt edges. It will sometimes go completely through a plate; and is found where a sudden change of thickness occurs, either along the lines of the seams, or opposite the edge of angle-iron attachments. This effect is supposed to be due to the alternate springing of the plates under each variation of the pressure or temperature, causing the line of least resistance to receive a strain somewhat similar to that produced by bending a piece of iron backwards and forwards for the purpose of breaking it. This line of injury is exposed to constant attack from corrosion, because the scurf is always thrown off from it.

External corrosion is a far more frequent cause of explosion in stationary boilers; and it arises from many causes. The most frequent cause, although the most easily detected, is leakage from the joints of the fittings on the top of the boiler, which are too frequently attached by bolts instead of rivets. This evil is much increased when the boilers are covered with brickwork, which holds the water against the plates, and hides the mischief from observation. It is astonishing to find how much damage is allowed in this way to go on without attention, until the tops of boilers are corroded so thin that little holes burst through. These are sometimes found stopped with wooden pegs or covered by screwed patches of plate, either of which cause leakage that hastens the mischief, as shown by the sample exhibited. Boilers exposed to the weather will of course become corroded like anything else made of iron and not painted; and yet so much mischief is sometimes caused by leakage beneath improper covering that exposure may almost

be said to be the smaller evil of the two, as it is better to see what is going on than to rest in false security. No covering will be found cheaper, or better, in the long run, than a roof, which prevents the loss of heat by exposure, and yet allows free access to all the fittings and joints on the top of the boiler.

Some examples of the evils of covering can be given that have come under the writer's observation. A set of boilers had been well covered by arches of brickwork, so built as to keep out all water, and also set so as to touch the boilers only at intervals, leaving a space generally of a few inches. After about seven years' working, the whole of the tops of the boilers were discovered to be dangerously thin, and had to be renewed. The cause was leakage from the joints of fittings and seams of the boilers, and the issuing steam had been drawn along the space between the boilers and the arches, and had escaped at a place where it had not attracted notice. In another case, a somewhat similar set of boilers were covered with ashes, to prevent the loss of heat by radiation; and the rain and the leakage beneath the ashes, in conjunction with the corrosive matter from the ashes themselves, thinned the tops of the boilers to a dangerous extent in less than two years. A sketch of the corrosion caused in this instance by covering with ashes is shown in Figs. 60 and 61.

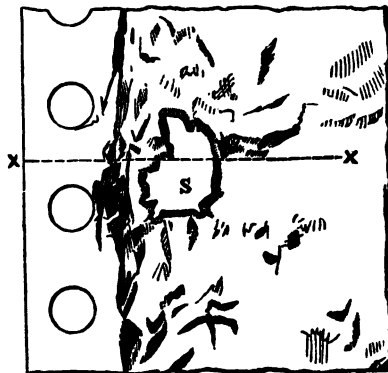


Fig. 60.

Similar mischief has been noticed in boilers covered with sand,

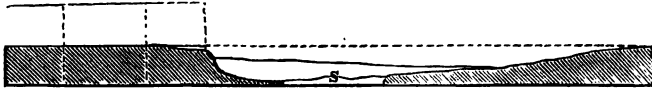


Fig. 61.

as shown in the sketches Figs. 62 and 63, which represent an instance of corrosion after eight years' working; although nothing

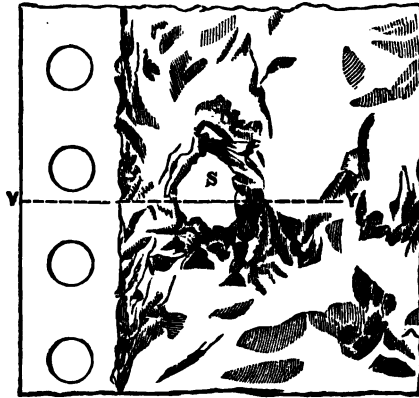


Fig. 62.

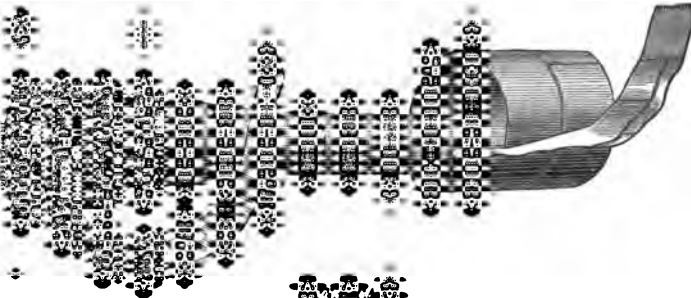


Fig. 63.

forms a better covering than sand for preventing loss of heat by radiation. In both these examples it will be seen that the corrosion has continued until the thickness of the plate has been so eaten away that a hole has been burst out at SS. A very good covering is formed by brickwork in cement; or various cements made for the purpose, which adhere to the surface of the plate and yet show leakage; or such materials as sacking or felt; or sheet-iron casing, leaving about 6 inches of air space all round the boiler.

they hide the boiler
 of removing the
 ve caused explosion

eral corrosion of the
 er which was set on
 was found to have
 an two years, owing
 is causing a constant
 er, and more like that
 place; for the iron
 kes could be raised
 the thickness of the plate
 hat similar corrosion
 at Loughborough in
 the corroded part, and
 boiler several times,
 ns manner shown in
 occurred at Leeds in



the boiler.

on the side flues of
 y boilers are emptied
 day night, and long
 es has cooled; and

deserves attention, as it shows the effect of a jet of steam and

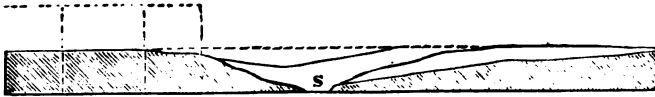
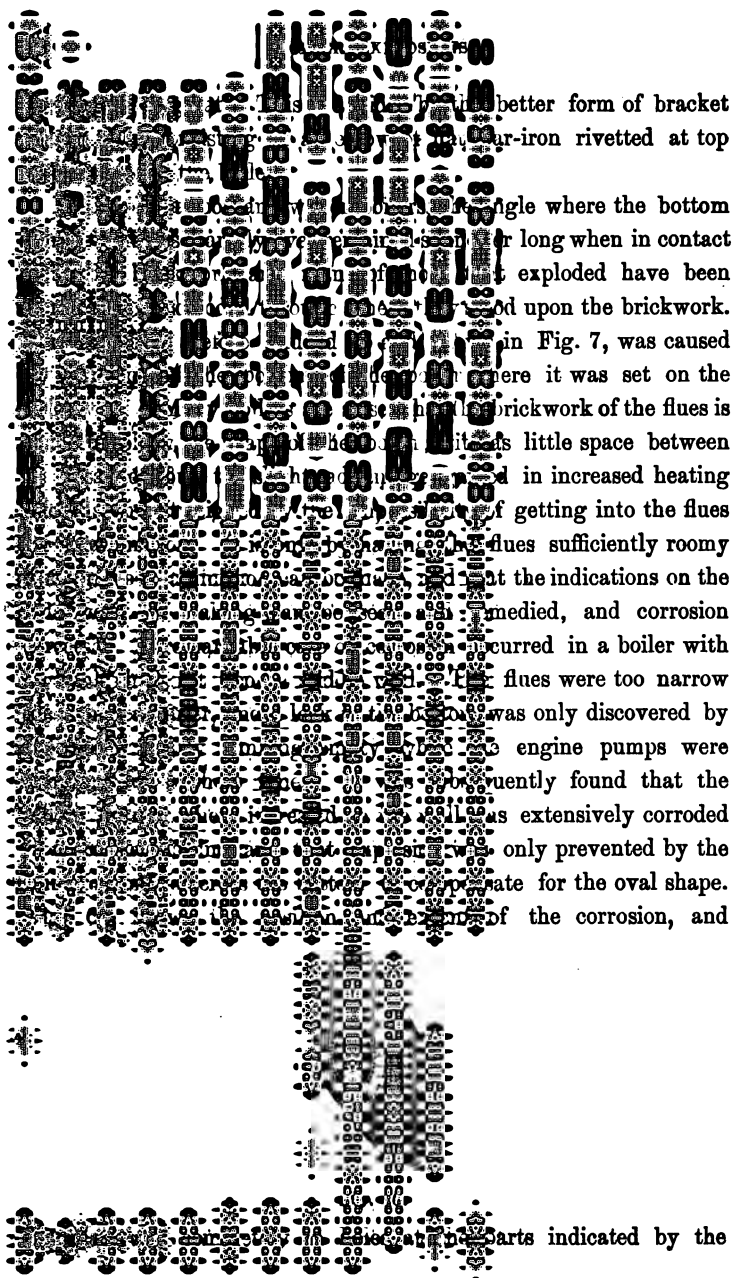


Fig. 67.

water from the leaking rivet B, in cutting a series of channels into the plate along the course of the dotted lines EEE, and producing a hole in the plate at S. This corrosion had been going on for about four years, but was in a part of the boiler seldom seen in ordinary examination. Many explosions have resulted from this form of corrosion; for when a rent is once made, the fracture continues along the thinned channel of the plate.

The corrosion most to be dreaded, because most difficult to detect, is that which takes place where the boiler is in contact with brickwork; and it is found alike in all forms of boilers set in brickwork. When found at the part where the side flues are gathered in at the top against the boiler, it is usually occasioned by the leaking of fittings or feed pipes, or by rain being allowed to run between the boiler and the brickwork. More than one explosion has been caused by the droppings from a roof being allowed to fall upon the tops of the flues. When the corrosion is found at the point where the bottom flue walls touch the boiler, it is frequently caused by the leaking of seams that have been strained by the weight of the boiler; and this often arises from want of care to replace the brickwork, after repair of the boiler or flues, in such a position as to take again its proper proportion of the weight of the boiler. Cases have been met with where the shape of the bottom of large boilers has been quite altered by such means. The brackets on the sides of heavy boilers have not only been strained so that the rivets or bolts have leaked and caused corrosion, but they have also bent or cracked the side plates of the boiler. The bracket shown at B in Fig. 53, page 40, made of only an angle iron with a piece of plate attached, is especially liable to cause injury if the brickwork is not rebuilt close up to the angle iron, as the



better form of bracket
cast-iron rivetted at top

angle where the bottom
long when in contact
exploded have been
upon the brickwork.

in Fig. 7, was caused
where it was set on the
brickwork of the flues is

little space between
in increased heating
of getting into the flues

flues sufficiently roomy
at the indications on the

remedied, and corrosion
occurred in a boiler with

flues were too narrow
was only discovered by

engine pumps were
frequently found that the

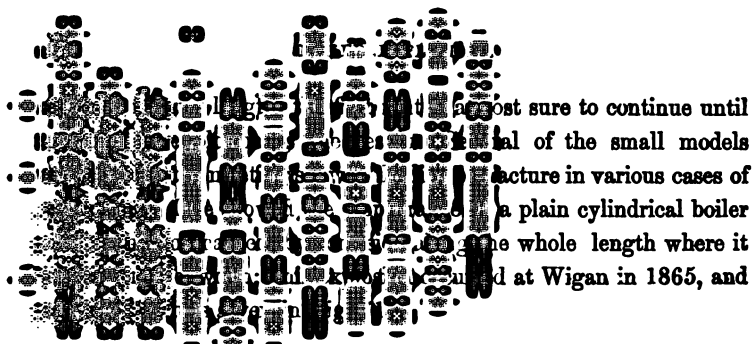
was extensively corroded
only prevented by the

rate for the oval shape.
of the corrosion, and

parts indicated by the

have been going on
 be the cause of an
 simply give way and
 boiler would not be
 is only local, and
 length to arrest the
 as in an explosion
 a piece of plate

allowing the steam
 ; the thickness of
 inch by corrosion
 at the seams
 , and also from the
 ast the plate by the
 if the piece blown
 der may be thrown
 ing steam, as in an
 If the corrosion



most sure to continue until the failure of the small models of the boiler in various cases of a plain cylindrical boiler the whole length where it was made at Wigan in 1865, and

caused by accumulation of scurf being gradually increased to a dangerous thickness on the bottom. The boiler becomes overheated, because not in contact with the water, and sinks down into a "pocket," which is not strong enough. If the scurf that has accumulated is hard enough to resist the pressure of the water, until the scurf suddenly breaks down, it will burst so violently as to disturb the water over the top of the grate. Such was the case with a large plain cylindrical boiler in a large fire place side by side with another, which burst out over the third grate. A similar pocket in a boiler was made at Dudley in 1864, after it had been cleaned, is shown in the

scurf had filled



plates at the bottom,
hard description;
curve, and thinned
inch.

plates, and the plates
accumulation of mud.
is very full of mud,
during the week but
each time the deposit
disengaged again
work, but hardened into
injuries to the plates
cause that first
structure and leads to
the Meeting
ships, carelessly left
boiler, as seen in
left in the boiler



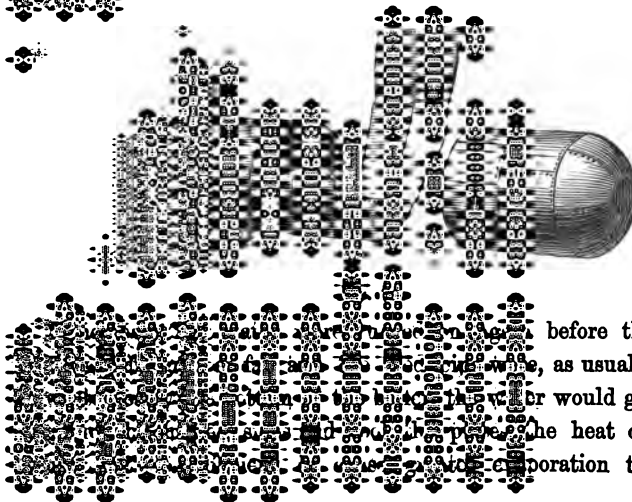
and forming a nucleus for the scurf to accumulate upon. Other specimens show that foreign matter must have been put into the boiler to stop leaking.

Accumulations of scurf in the feed pipes at the point of entrance into the boiler have also caused explosion by stopping the supply of water. The same result is caused by the freezing of the water in the pipes which are exposed, and each winter one or two boilers are injured or exploded from this cause, especially small household boilers placed behind kitchen grates. Scurf cannot be considered so great an evil as corrosion, since it can be removed, and if this is done in time, the boiler is restored to its original condition.

The advantage of a pure water, which does not deposit scurf, is so great for the supply of boilers that it is always worth while to go to considerable expense for obtaining it; or to take some steps for purifying the feed water as much as possible. If it is only mud mechanically suspended, which would deposit by gravity on the bottom of the boiler, frequent use should be made of the blow-off apparatus. If the impurity is light enough to be carried to the surface in the form of scum, the blow-off apparatus should discharge from the surface of the water as well as from the bottom. If the impurity is chemically suspended in the water, some one of the many substances which form the refuse from various manufactures, and which may contain suitable ingredients, should be used to counteract the effect of the impurity. Common soda will answer the purpose perhaps better than anything else. It must not be forgotten however that the blow-off apparatus must afterwards be used more frequently, to rid the boiler of the foreign matter, or the mischief will be increased. In marine boilers, constant attention is necessary to get rid of the saline deposit; and in stationary boilers using impure water an equally systematic attention is needed to get rid of the earthy deposit.

Perhaps no cause of explosion is oftener mentioned than shortness of water, and this is not unfrequently coupled with turning on the feed suddenly into an overheated boiler. Many explosions have been attributed to this cause, when closer investigation would have

distance, shortness of
 Abercarn in 1865,
 which collapsed
 and the sides of
 although exposed
 rked through the
 In this case the
 the tube, and not
 at if a boiler runs
 boiler, there must
 ted with any other
 w-off pipe or any
 but of shape upon
 would happen. If
 feed were turned
 to the fire would
 the subsidence of the
 hot, and so much
 rring the pressure,
 to Perwick, in the present
 line, as shown in



before the over-
 e, as usual, carried
 or would gradually
 the heat of which
 corporation than the

ordinary safety valves would carry off. The danger would not arise so much from the excess of steam generated by the heat accumulated in the heated plates of the boiler, as from the injury and strain that would be caused to the plates by the undue expansion and sudden contraction, especially as this action would take place on only a portion of the boiler. A singular case, bearing on this point, may be mentioned. A four-furnace upright boiler, like that shown in Fig. 44, happened to run so nearly empty, through the accidental sticking of the self-acting feed apparatus, that the level of the water sank to the top of the hemispherical end forming the bottom of the boiler. The feed apparatus then became released of itself, and, the feed being turned full on, the water gradually rose until the whole occurrence was only discovered by the leaking at the seams that had been sprung, which caused so much steam in the flues as to stop the working of the furnaces. The overheating had been sufficient to buckle the plates, and in one place a rupture had almost commenced ; but there was no explosion. By way of direct experiment upon this point, boilers have been purposely made red-hot and then filled with cold water, without causing explosion.

It has been supposed that boilers sometimes explode from overheating without the water level being below the usual point, or without the accumulation of scurf previously alluded to, but simply by the rapidity of the evaporation from an intensely heated surface causing such a continuous current of steam as to prevent the proper contact of the water with the heated plate. Such has been the cause assigned for the explosion of a three-furnace upright boiler at Birmingham in 1865, shown in Fig. 75. A piece of plate about 3 ft. by $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. was blown out of the side, at a place where an enormous flame impinged continually. The plates had first bulged out, and then given way in the centre of the bulge, each edge being doubled back and broken off. There was no positive evidence as to the water supply ; but the crown of the centre tube, which was much above the bottom of the part blown out, remained uninjured.

A somewhat similar case was that of a large horizontal boiler



and escaped notice ; but when the plate that fails is found to be brittle and of bad iron, the fault is rather attributed to the effect of working than to original bad quality. Of course this is not always the case, as the injury done to plates by overheating has been already explained. Pieces of plate have in some cases been erroneously pronounced to be deteriorated by work, which have been taken from situations in the boilers where they were not exposed to any action of fire that could cause overheating ; and therefore in reality the injury could only have taken place when the boiler was being made, by burning the iron in bending it to the required shape. A frequent cause of fatal injury to boilers is injudicious repair, whereby the crossing of the seams is destroyed, as in the explosion at Wolverhampton in 1865, previously referred to and shown in Fig. 36. Moreover the edges of the old plates, already tried by the first rivetting and the subsequent cutting out of the rivets, are frequently strained again by the use of the drift to draw them up to the strong new plates ; and many a seam rip is thus started which ultimately causes explosion.

Many explosions have been caused by the want of proper apparatus for enabling the attendant to tell the height of the water and the pressure of the steam, and also by the want of sufficient apparatus for supply of feed water and escape of steam, or by the failure of one or other of these ; but such explosions can only be referred to generally in the present paper. The mountings on a boiler are usually so open to observation, and the importance of having them good and efficient is so universally acknowledged, that much remark is not needed. Mention has already been made of the sticking of self-acting feed apparatus as a cause of mischief, and similar failures of floats and gauges have constantly happened ; but this should by no means be considered to condemn self-acting apparatus, either for assisting in the steadiness of working, or for giving warning of danger. The apparatus however should be relied on for assistance only ; and an attendant cannot be called careful who leaves a boiler dependent on such apparatus without watching. The self-acting principle has been seen by the writer applied in a novel and useful way in a recording pressure gauge, which proved the more interesting as it

had shown the actual pressure of steam at the time of the explosion of one of the boilers with which it was connected.

Among the numerous boiler explosions that have been attributed to over-pressure through deficient arrangements for escape of steam, in many cases the safety valves have been placed on the steam pipes in such a manner that the communication with them was cut off whenever the steam stop-valve was shut, which is just the time when the safety valves are most wanted. Safety valves are too often found needlessly overweighted; and it is believed that many boilers are constantly worked with safety valves so imprudently arranged and weighted, that they could not carry off all the steam the boilers would generate without a very great increase of pressure.

It is concluded that enough has now been said to show that boiler explosions do not arise from mysterious causes, but generally from some defect which could have been remedied if it had been known to exist. It only remains therefore to consider what is the most ready and efficient way to discover the true condition of a boiler. It has been maintained that this end is best accomplished by what is called the hydraulic test, in which a pressure of water is maintained in the boiler for a given time at a certain excess above the working pressure. This test is undoubtedly useful so far as it goes, and is perhaps the only one that can be applied to boilers with small internal spaces, such as locomotive boilers, not admitting of personal inspection over the whole of the interior; and it is also admirable for testing the workmanship of a new boiler. But on the other hand the conditions of a boiler at work are so different from those which exist during the hydraulic test, that this alone cannot be depended on; for old boilers have been known to stand this test to double their working pressure without apparent injury, although known to be dangerously corroded. The difficulty also of seeing or measuring the effect of the hydraulic test upon large boilers set in elaborate brickwork is so great that little practical benefit has resulted in many cases.

It is believed by the writer that the surest way to ascertain the true condition of a boiler is to examine it at frequent intervals in

every part, both inside and outside; and as this can only be done when both the boilers and the flues can be readily entered, it is specially important that facility for examination should be made a consideration in selecting a construction of boiler. Permanent safety should be considered as an element of economy, in addition to its still higher importance in reference to the preservation of life.

BRIEF ABSTRACTS

FROM REPORTS ON

STEAM BOILER EXPLOSIONS,

PRESENTED TO THE

MIDLAND STEAM BOILER INSPECTION & ASSURANCE Co.,

BY

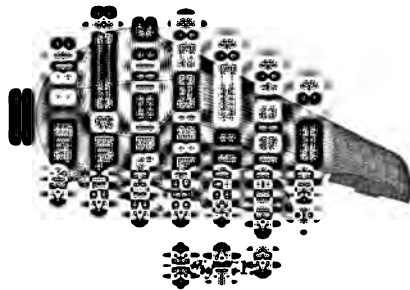
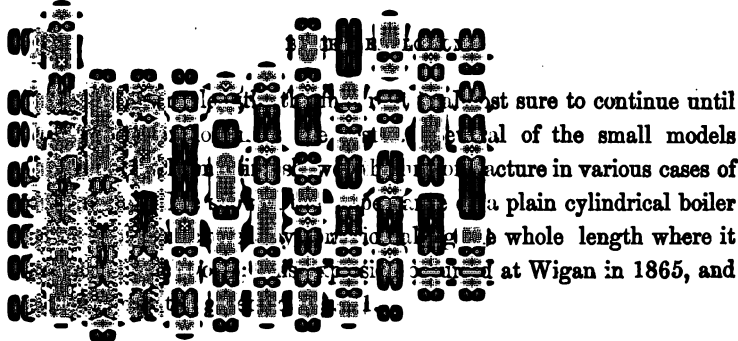
EDWARD BINDON MARTEN,

CHIEF ENGINEER TO THE COMPANY.

Description is shortened as much as possible, and facilitated by slight sketches, showing the position of the fragments or line of fracture, and the general construction of the Boilers.

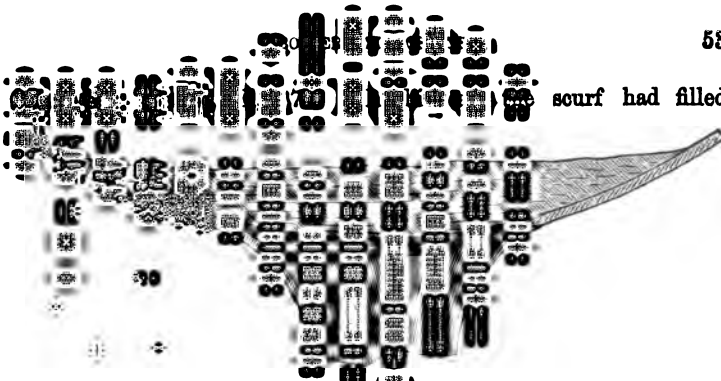
REPUBLISHED BY THE PERMISSION OF THE COMPANY.

STOURBRIDGE: R. BROOMHALL, PRINTER, HIGH STREET.
1869.

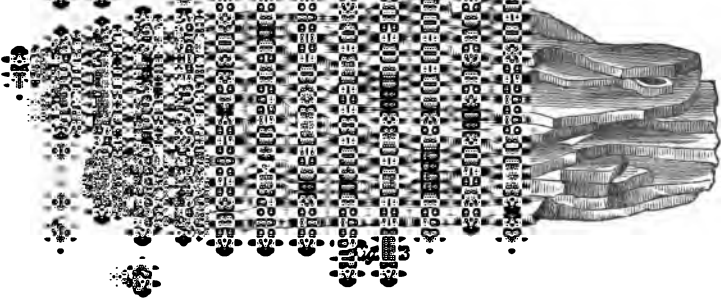


The scurf that has been used by accumulation of
 at a scurf being gradually
 to a dangerous thickness
 on the bottom. The
 overheated, because not in
 down into a "pocket,"
 enough. If the scurf that
 hard enough to resist the
 until the scurf suddenly
 so violently as to disturb
 of the grate. Such was
 a large plain cylindrical
 large fires placed side by
 burst out over the third
 A similar pocket in a
 at Dndley in 1864, after
 cleaning, is shown in the

scurf had filled



at the bottom, hard description; curve, and thinned inch. The plates were covered, and the plates were full of mud, during the week but each time the deposit was disengaged again. The plates were drawn, but hardened into the plates. The injuries to the plates were caused by the first fracture and leads to the Meeting. The ships, carelessly left boiler, as seen in left in the boiler



66.

It was attached to the continued circular to the in. diameter. All the though the boiler was thickness by wear. The self-registering guage not exceed 20 lbs.

ent longitudinally, and rings of plates, and and blew away to a

mouth of the tube was ned in the back part of

the intrinsic weakness fire, where the top is

The boiler had been place, and its strength able to bear even a few pressure.

engaged by hemp, carefully posing there had been

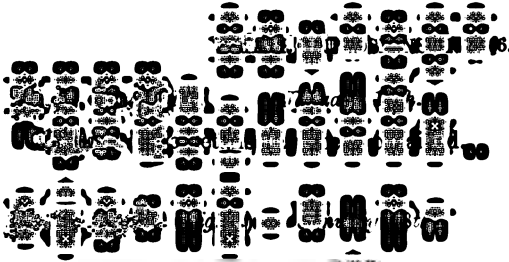
1 killed 1 injured.

Internal fire place and

distance, shortness of
 Abercarn in 1865,
 the, which collapsed
 the and the sides of
 the, although exposed
 worked through the
 In this case the
 the tube, and not
 that if a boiler runs
 boiler, there must
 be with any other
 low-off pipe or any
 out of shape upon
 would happen. If
 the feed were turned
 to the fire would
 the subsidence of the
 hot-hot, and so much
 bearing the pressure,
 twice, in the present
 line, as shown in

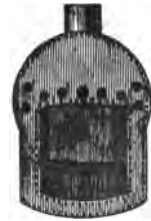
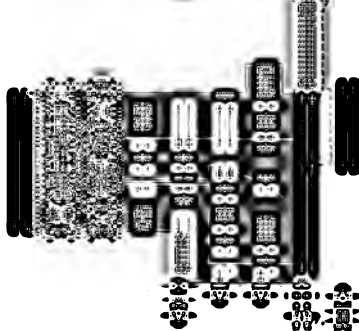


before the over-
 pressure, as usual, carried
 over would gradually
 the heat of which
 evaporation than the



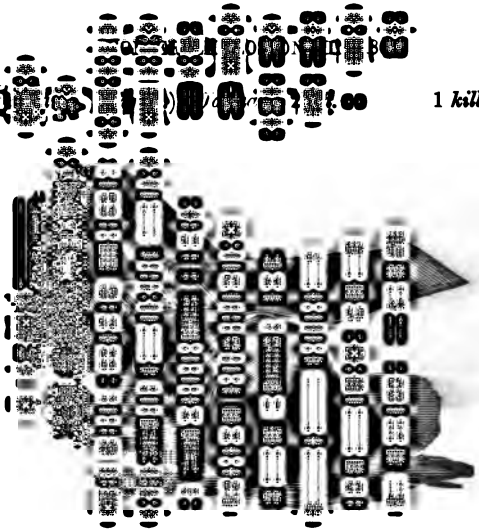
1 injured.

1 killed, 2 injured.

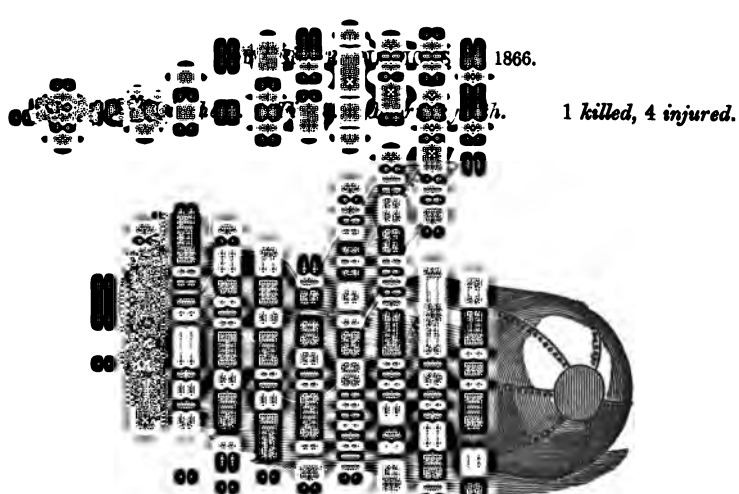


meter in the barrel,
 2 ft. 4 in. wide, 2 ft. 4 in. high,
 fire box, two 12-inch
 back of the barrel.
 an exterior smoke-box
 with one spring safety
 and there was no pressure
 bolted on so that the
 cleaning, but it had been
 and it was nearly full
 and unstrengthened,
 and was driven into the
 and reared against a wall,
 the very dirty state, caused
 copper contact with the
 not admit of proper
 for the proper protection

1 killed, 3 injured.



30ft. long and 6ft. and from the engine at years, then remained years. The boiler was 48 inches diameter, a float valve, than once repaired in over the fire had explosion, but not just been started when the boiler had been opened out flat, and the hemispherical end to the left and right hand. It was a mass, and after the failure of a boiler by age, and over-



1866.

1 killed, 4 injured.

ical ends, 23ft. long, and
set so as to be fired
was seldom used. The
face, the neck of which
flame was carried by a
the stack on the right
with a 4½-inch safety
pected that the latter had
the left hand side had
and 4th rings of plates
being detached from the boiler.
thrown some distance to
side of the boiler became
bulged outwards with
open. The over-heating
water, but it might possibly
heat of a mill furnace
er line, leading to such
act of the water to keep

1 injured.

in a shed, but no

1 injured.

have been obtained.

1 injured.

aster, with one tube
ere were no strength-
-hand, and had only
it exploded.
engthening rings.

1 killed.

9in. diameter, tube

atch on the left side
it was slightly out
he top being thrown

66.

evidence of shortness

was too weak to sustain

7 injured.

not injured, it is only
prudence of placing
was beneath a work
he displaced, allowing
rushed into the room

1 killed.

aces, connected into one

posed, and slightly rent,
attendant.

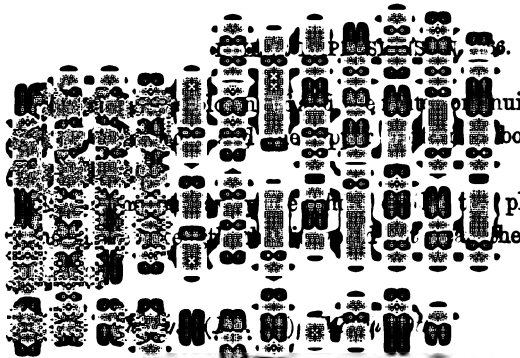
per level, allowing the
unable to bear the

nsible plug, but they

1 killed, 1 injured.

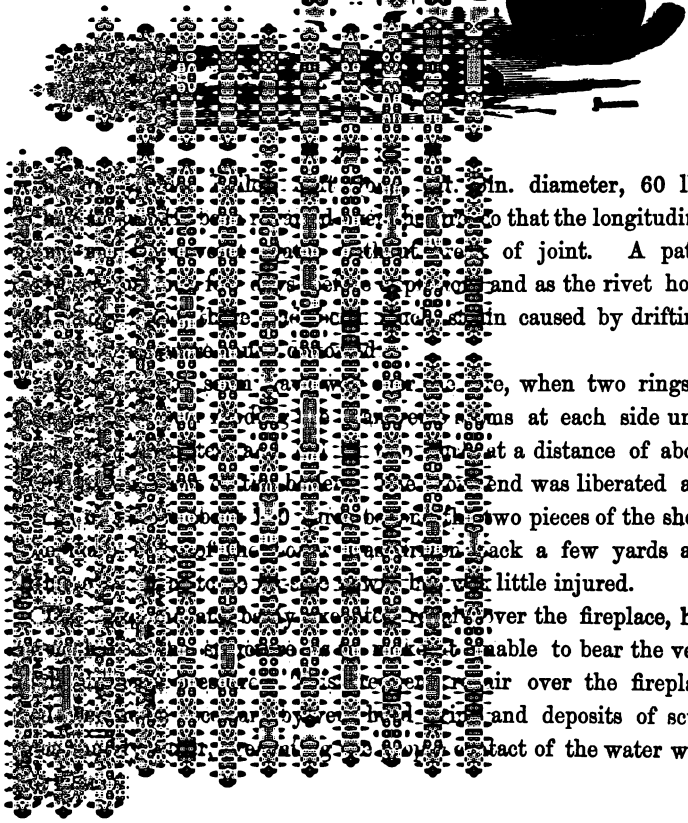
and 3ft. 2½ in. diameter,

ity.

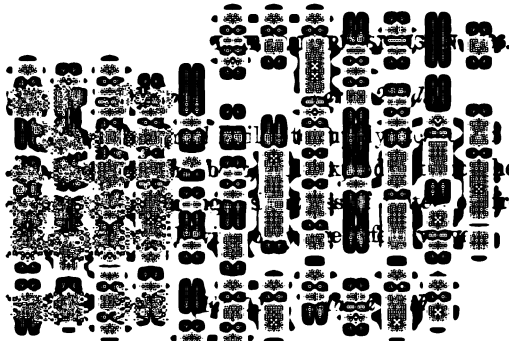


...ning, the top opened
both back and front
plate, and so much
the ordinary working

none injured.



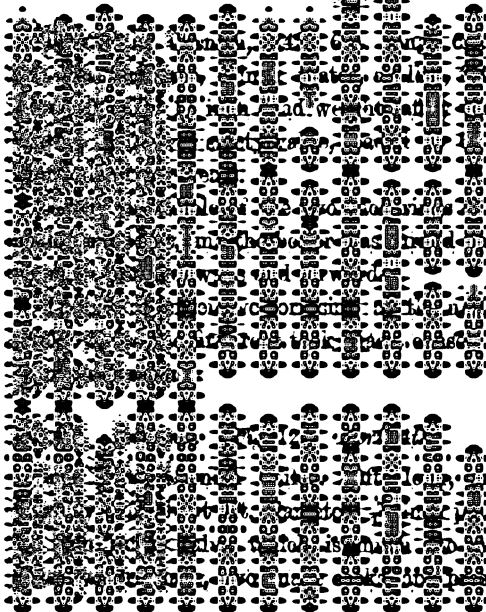
...in. diameter, 60 lbs.
...to that the longitudinal
of joint. A patch
and as the rivet holes
in caused by drifting,
...e, when two rings of
...ms at each side until
at a distance of about
end was liberated and
two pieces of the shell.
back a few yards and
little injured.
...ver the fireplace, had
able to bear the very
air over the fireplace
and deposits of scurf
contact of the water with



1 killed.

some steam winches
the overheating of the
from over pressure in

2 killed, 18 injured.



6in. diameter, tubes
fitted with steam gauge,
and worked at
lbs., and had been at

the shell were torn off
partly round, and moved

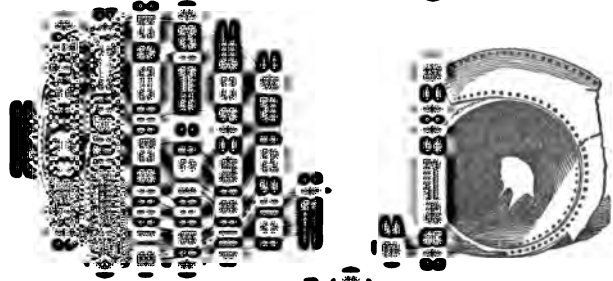
er side of the back of
by the leaking of the

5 killed, 4 injured.

and 7ft. diameter, tube
es, 43 lbs., fitted with
small for such a boiler,
pressure gauge.

No. 66.

The front end was blown
and was driven against



main body of the shell,
within it, were driven
distance away. Very
property.

less of the tube of so
which made it unable
It is very probable,
the pressure was con-
of the engine, and
in the machinery.

1 killed.

diameter, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch plates

front part of the bottom
were allowed the sides to
destroyed and torn into

be the defective state
longitudinally, were



none injured.

meter, tubes 1ft. 8in. was supplied by two of water, and tore at the base, and allowed the water to escape, but the boiler

2 killed, 2 injured.

ft. 4in. diameter, and the tubes were defective, the boiler was easily altered, so as to be strengthened by any means.

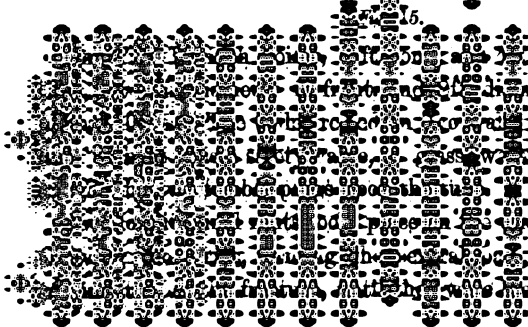
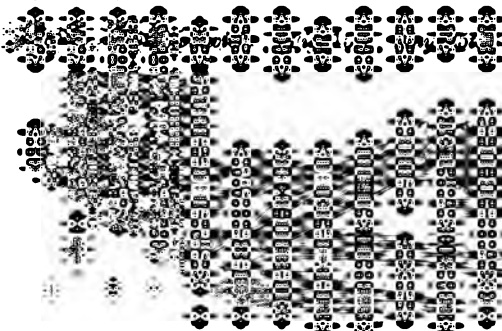
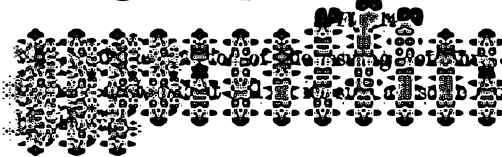
pressure and defective

, is of a similar boiler

none injured.

meter, $\frac{5}{8}$ inch plates, the pressure.

during the time another boiler was required under the balloon, and the water was required from it into the other boiler, and it had become fast, and

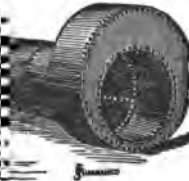


6.

the bottom gave

made the boiler rise
distance away flattened

none injured.



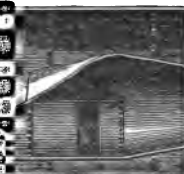
6 in. diameter, taper
6 in. diameter at back, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch
forming the bottom
guage, a pressure

order side of the shell,
to open out by the
down to a considerable

66.

One ring of the shell
and was thrown to the
away from the back.
rested on the side walls
boiler was thereby so
the ordinary working

1 killed.



diameter, taper tube,
and 2ft. diameter at
a safety valve loaded to
causing place in the second
caused the death of a
not injured or moved.
of water, and as the
in charge may have
face, and the laminated
tube peculiarly liable

1 killed.

diameter, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch plates,
and 2 floats.
were thrown to a con-
place immediately

6.

...ing of the shell by
... by the deposit from
... of the water with

1 killed.

...eter, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch plates,
...oats, and two alarm

...ne end was separated

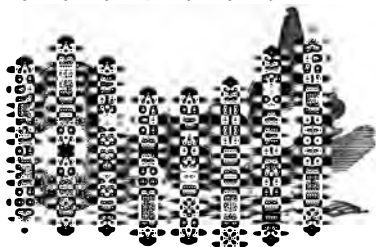
...g of the shell from
...asure, as the guage
...the pressure had at

1 killed, 4 injured.

...a. diameter, tube, 4ft.

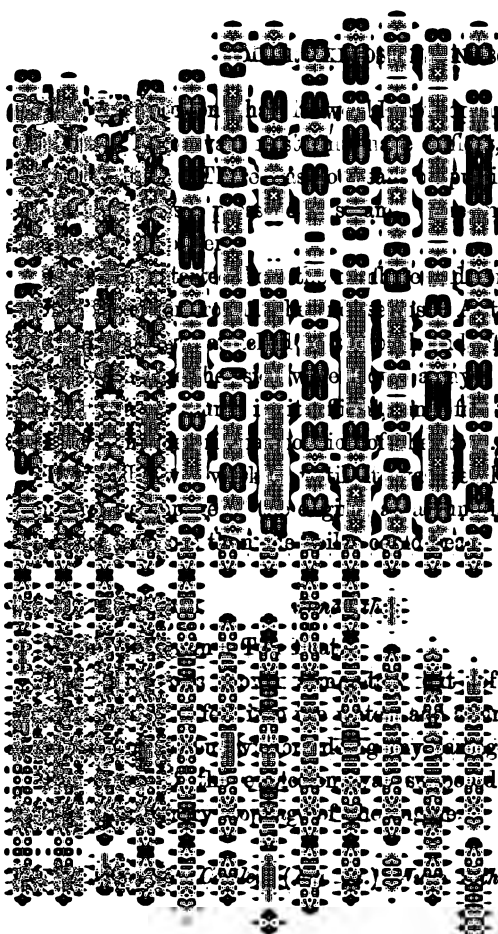
...ing steam and water
...to bear the ordinary

1 killed, 1 injured.



...ad only 4ft. 2in. long,
...as most inefficiently
...diameter, and of such

66.



under a pressure of
, and the guage cocks
ing water in the boiler
anhole was very large

continued along the top
longue-shaped strip of
ate; two strips about
The boiler had been
with the back about

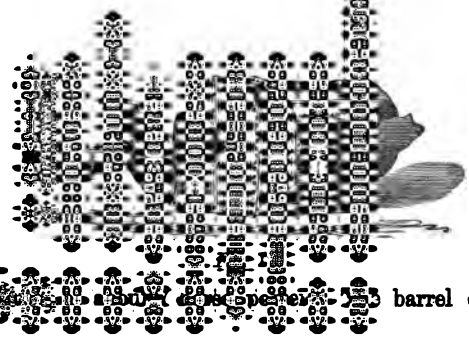
dry, and, during a
umpilation of steam caused

none injured.

f the vessel, and the
erge piece alighted on
ge.

to be over-pressure

2 injured.



barrel of the boiler

BOILER EXPLOSIONS IN 1866.

was 6ft. 1in. long, 2ft. 5in. diameter the fire-box end was 3ft. wide, and 2ft. 4in. deep; the fire-box was 2ft. 5½in. wide, and 2ft. 7in. high, and 1ft. 9½in. deep, with 23 tubes passing from it through the barrel to the smoke box and chimney. The boiler was fitted with a 2in. safety valve, which was intended to blow at 45 lbs., but as there was no ferrule, it is supposed to have been screwed down to a much greater pressure.

The upper portion of the shell over the fire-box rent through the manhole, and allowed the shell to open out and fall on each side. A large portion of the front plate was also torn off.

The cause of the explosion was the weakness of the manhole, which was not strengthened by any ring, and also excessive pressure from want of proper safety valve.

No. 33. Breage. June 11th. 1 killed.

Cornish Boiler, 36ft. 6in. long, and 6ft. diameter, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch plates, 45 lbs.

The tube collapsed and rent, and the issuing contents caused the death of the attendant.

The weak tube of such large diameter, was unable to bear the ordinary working pressure, having no strengthening rings.

No. 34. Nottingham. June 19th. 2 killed, 4 injured.

Locomotive, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch plates, 140 lbs.

The explosion occurred at the left hand side of the ring of plates in the barrel next the fire-box, and below the foot-plate. The rent tore along the edge of the lap and into the next ring of plates. The reaction of the issuing contents threw the engine off the rails.

The cause of the explosion was partial corrosion at the point of rupture and strain of the plates, as the boiler itself formed part of the frame of the engine.

No. 35. Richmond. June 26th. 2 injured.

Locomotive, being tried for the first time. The funnel came in contact with a bridge, and the dome was also torn off.

BOILER EXPLOSIONS IN 1866.

No. 36. Gainsbro' June 29th. none injured.

No details have been obtained.

No. 37. Durham. July 2nd. 4 killed.

Plain Cylindrical Boiler, 30ft. long, and 6ft. diameter, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch plates, 28 lbs. It had been repaired a short time before the explosion, with 5 new plates.

The boiler was torn up into several pieces, but the main portion remained flattened out on the seating, while some smaller pieces were sent 250 yards away.

The cause of the explosion was the deterioration of the boiler, and its frequent repair over the fireplace.

No. 38. Liverpool. June 12th. 4 injured.

Elephant Boiler, 20ft. long, and 4ft. diameter, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch plates, and worked at low pressure. The bottom shell had a tube through its whole length.

A rent took place in the lower part of the fireplace, and extended along the bottom, and the reaction of the issuing contents caused the top to rear up.

The cause of the explosion was supposed to be that the bottom plates were worn too thin to bear the ordinary pressure.

No. 39. Sheffield. July 4th. none injured.

Two Tube Cornish Boiler, externally fired, 30ft. long, and 6ft. diameter, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch plates, 40 lbs.

The second seam over the fire gave way, and the plate sank down upon the fire.

The cause of the explosion was the deterioration of the seams over the fire, in consequence of the deposit of scurf which could not be properly cleared off owing to the internal tubes.

No. 40. Oldham. July 14th. none injured.

Boiler, with two internal furnaces, 9ft. 6in. long, and 2ft. 11in. diameter, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch plates, uniting into one tube beyond.


the boiler.
ve, and the steam
accumulated than the

3 injured.

It was a plain
, and 7ft. diameter.
boiler revolved, and
pressure of 30 lbs.,
a large manhole
alf was blown to

of the boiler was too
young caused a central

2 killed, 7 injured.



inch plates, with
A tube 3ft. 3in.
front, and returned

1866.

and then passed to an
the hemispherical end.
away, and separated from
down to a good distance,
opposite direction.
instruction of the boiler,
there were no stays, and
the shell.
inside by two men,
losion.

2 killed, 6 injured.

23ft. long, 5ft. 3in.

the first ring of plates at

weakness of the flat ends

1 killed, 3 injured.

diameter, with 140 2-in.
6in. broad, and 5ft. deep,
It was fitted with two
of the left side, 2ft. 6in.
h, and the issuing water

3 killed, 5 injured.



6in. diameter, with an internal chamber box and chimney in the water, and the to be thrown on to

1 injured.

12in. diameter, taper tube 2ft. 6in. diameter gave way on left were forced out of

3 killed, 1 injured.

been tested to 60 lbs. back, and the issuing

2 killed, 2 injured.

appage from accumu-

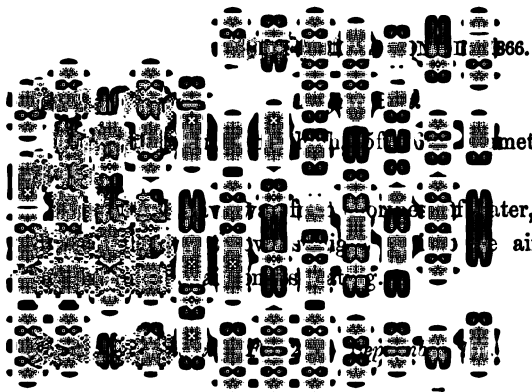


Fig. 21.

3 killed, 6 injured.

meter, $1\frac{7}{8}$ inch plates,

water, and the main bulk
air to a great height,

2 killed, 30 injured.



Fig. 22.

diameter, with tubes,

shell, allowing the
 portion containing
 to the right. The
 tubes and back end,
 The tubes were
 some large coping
 tubes were uninjured,
 overheating.
 shell, where it rested
 that it was unable
 show their position

none injured.
 shortness of water,
 the door frame.

1 injured.
 meter, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch plates,
 of plates was torn
 rested against the
 bear the ordinary

7 killed.

meter, tube 2ft. 6in.

BOILER EXPLOSIONS IN 1866.

diameter, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch plates, 100 lbs. It was double-rivetted, and the crown of tube was strengthened with angle iron. The shell was formed of six rings, each of two plates alternately jointed top and sides. The third ring from the front had stripped off, and was thrown to the right and forwards against a wall. The line of rent was confined to the plates forming the ring, which was an outer one, and covered the two adjoining rings in the laps, the rent being from the edge of the inner lap to the nearest rivets. The first rent had taken place in the solid iron, about 1 inch from the rivets of a seam on one side, and from this the rent had extended along the seams on either side, and of course the whole ring soon tore off when the equilibrium was destroyed by the first rent.

The fittings of the boiler were sufficient, except that there was only one safety valve, and that was so constructed that it could only open a very little way.

The cause was a defect in the iron at the point of the first rent, and accumulated pressure during the time of standing.

No. 54. Macclesfield. September 25th. none injured.

Multitubular Boiler, with large internal fireplace, 60 lbs.

The furnace crown became overheated from shortness of water, and was crushed down and torn across two seams. The boiler was lifted from its seat and thrown back against a stone wall.

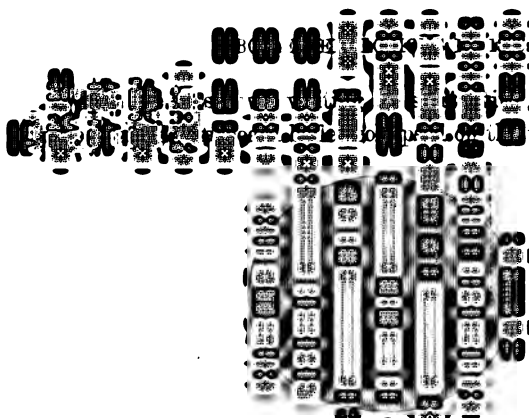
No. 55. Chelmsford. October 5th. 1 killed, 7 injured.

Agricultural, 45 lbs., and had only just been set to work.

The crown plate to the fire-box was so deeply corroded from long wear that it gave way; and the issuing contents scalded those near.

No. 56. Greenwich. (Fig. 24.) October 8th. 2 killed, 2 injured.

Marine, 16ft. long, slightly oval, front end flat, 8ft. 6in. wide, 7ft. 10in. high, and the dimensions of the back hemispherical end were 2ft. less each way, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch plates, 26 lbs. There were two internal fireplaces, of irregular shape, uniting at the back into one flue of similar shape, which did not come to the front, but passed through the steam space, and out at the top of the boiler.



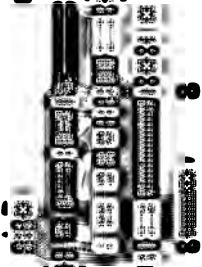
steam up, the wing
wing side, as shown

water to escape into
present along the edge of
rightly nicked in the
from the front, and
rivets from the crown
seam the furnace
side of the furnace,
There was also a
shell, as shown in
the shape of the
and evidently gradually
sion, and eventually
ptoms of the same
the corresponding flue of the

7 killed, 1 injured.

meter, with internal
chimney at the top,
many pieces, leaving
of the rents showed
unstrengthened by a

fractures had led away
fact, that the manlid



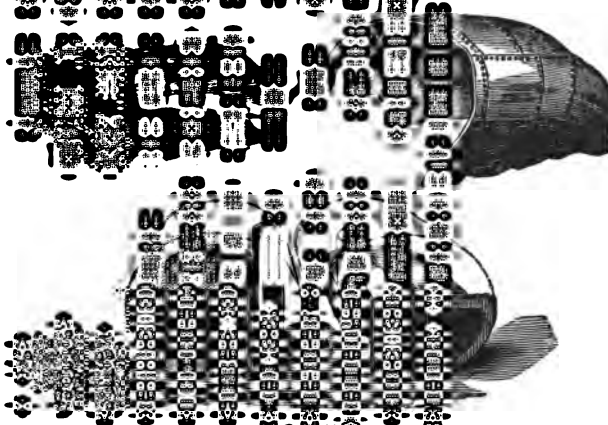
ough to make its way
front plate divided into
while the back plate was
to the manhole.
of overheating, but
action passed through the
the action of the fire,
water. The manhole
plate, and held in by
when carelessly screwed
engine was standing after
valve was very defective,
almost any pressure,
rated much higher than
and led to the sudden
sudden failure.
springs, rendered it unable
safety valve ought to

1 killed.

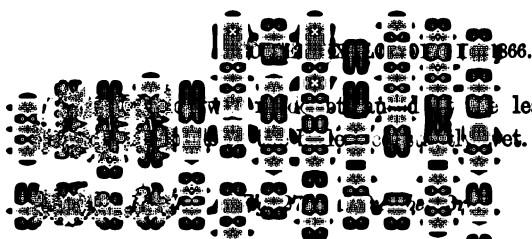
internal flue 3ft. 3in.,
on three saddles, with

bottom of the boiler, the issuing contents

7 killed.



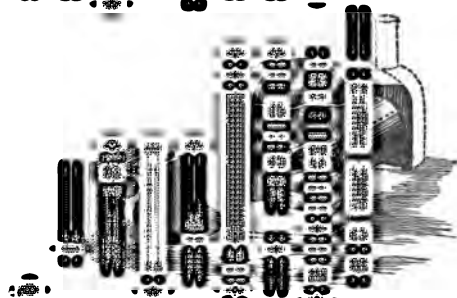
They were 16ft. and somewhat less at the internal fireplaces, front and passed up shell into the funnel. the outside fireplaces but the weakness of stays between the mountings to the boiler corroded that they allowing the sides Each shell fell at the parts of the front ends of the side flues that Small pieces of the the sides of the vessel



386.

leakage of the vessel,
et.

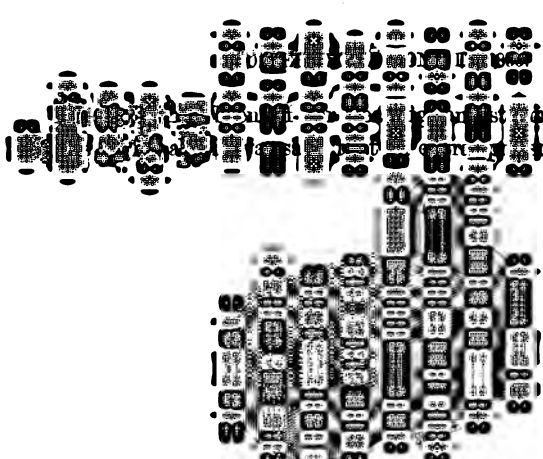
none injured.



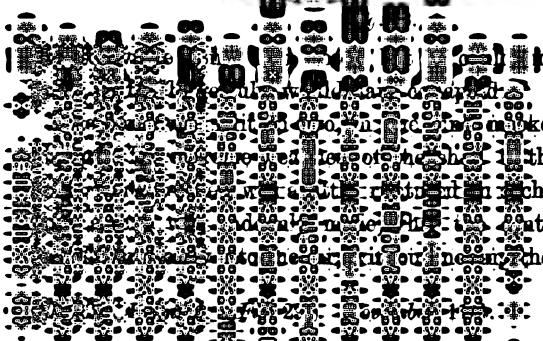
and 2ft. 6in. diameter,
heat passed through a
fire-box and chimney.
The fire-box end was torn from
fragments that could be
recovered. Part of the fire-box
was broken off when the boiler was travelling,
and it, first struck a rail
and rebounded to a point
where it was recovered from the river to
be presumed that, although
no pressure was shown by the
gauge, the pressure must have risen
above the normal pressure, and to more than the

none injured.

diameter, tube 4ft. 6in.
It was an unusually large dome
and the whole of the shell was cut
at the top. The structure was peculiarly weak.

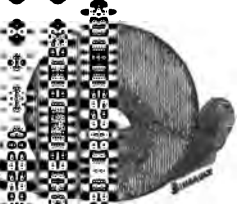
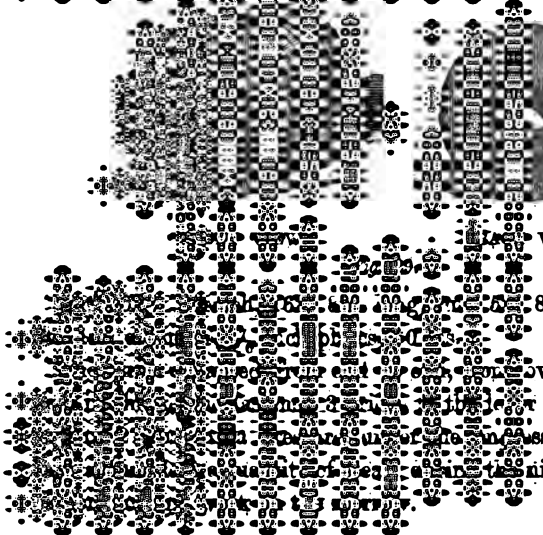


was being got up
 ure was caused by



ot have been very
 ked in the sketch,
 the juncture of the
 each side of it, and so
 tents of the boiler
 the boiler on its seat.

1 killed, 1 injured.



VIEW.

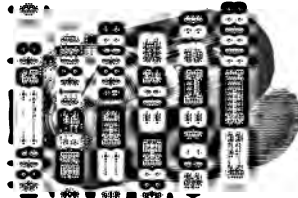
8in. diameter, tube
 ver-pressure, as the
 of the safety valve
 session that he could
 night, to be available



1866.

th,

none injured.



ing, and 5ft. diameter,
ing and emptying, and
the edges, and measured
and the lid fitted on the
crack shown in sketch,
the commencement of the
vented from leaking by
length.
the manlid was
through the floor, and
the manhole, and blown
the strength on one side,
trived to compensate at
strain when revolving,
together were sufficient
working pressure of 12 lbs.,
been increased to 35 lbs.,
the steam, although
year) clearly show that
the fire, or any chance of
these very great destruction,
of pressure which is so
the havoc caused by

none injured.

... of $\frac{1}{8}$ inch plates,
... fireplaces united

... junction of furnaces
... peak shape as to be

3 killed, 2 injured.

... meter, $\frac{1}{8}$ inch plates,
... head. Two $11\frac{1}{2}$ -inch
... of the boiler, and
... smoke box and

... was forced upwards,
... box.

... patches, that they
... pressure during a short

2 killed, 6 injured.

... in. diameter, tubes
... in the approved manner.

... was ruptured at the
... line of rivets on each

and turned completely
 that it was before.
 the seams beneath the
 cause of explosion.
none injured.
 9ft. long, 3ft. 3in.
 and the reaction of the
 yards away, and one of
 flew to a considerable
 that they gave way on
 temporary stoppage of

1 killed, 1 injured.
 spherical ends, and 7ft.
 pressure and thinness of
5th. *5 injured.*

diameter, tubes 2ft. 8in.
 was fired in each of
 heat from two furnaces
 outside shell.



BOILER EXPLOSIONS IN 1866.

Both the internal furnaces collapsed, until the crowns almost touched the fire bars, as shown in dotted lines, but without fracture. The back of the shell, on the right side, had evidently been overheated, and had rent along the centre of a bulge, and this rent had extended along the line of rivets of the transverse seam on each side, allowing two rings of the plates of the shell to open out flat as shown. There was a bulge on the plate, on the right side of shell, corresponding with the one which parted on the opposite side.

The cause of the explosion was overheating of the plates from shortness of water.

No. 70. Aberdeen.

December 24th.

1 injured.

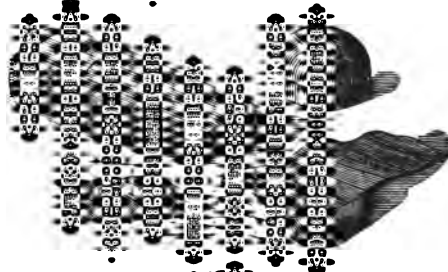
No particulars have been obtained.

IN 1867.

1 killed, 1 injured.

causing great damage,
All such boilers should

3 killed, 3 injured.



33 lbs. pressure. Only
and had worked before at
and old fitting-holes
seam at front end, over
on back, and front end
of explosion was, that
and also incautious

BOILER EXPLOSIONS IN 1867.

No. 3. *Sheffield.* (*Fig. 2.*) *January 2nd.* 1 killed, 4 injured.

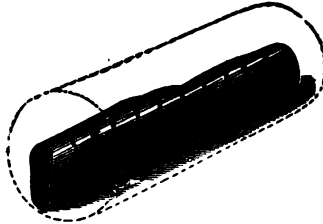


Fig. 2.

One Tube externally fired, 30ft. long, 6ft. 6in. diameter, with dished ends. Tube 2ft. 9in. diameter, slightly oval. Pressure 60 lbs. Tube collapsed sideways from end to end, because it was not strengthened by hoops or other means, which were the more needed, because it was slightly oval, and the longitudinal seams were nearly in one line.

No. 4. *Preston.* *January 3rd.* 1 killed.

Boiler for heating apparatus. Fire was lighted without noticing that as there was no safety valve, and that all escape of steam was prevented by the connecting pipes being frozen.

No. 5. *Westerham.* *January 5th.* 1 killed.

Cast-iron Boiler for heating water for a horse shower bath, fixed behind an ordinary fireplace. Burst and caused great damage, owing to the pipes being frozen. There was no safety valve.

No. 6. *Barr.* *January 9th.* 1 killed, 3 injured.

Kitchen Boiler, which burst because the supply pipes were stopped by frost, and there was no safety valve.

No. 7. *London.* *January 11th.* 1 killed.

Cornish, 12ft. long, 4ft. 6in. diameter, tube 2ft. 4in. diameter, pressure 40 lbs. Small piece of plate was blown out near the bottom, and the boiler was displaced by the reaction of issuing

1867.

extensive external corrosion

none injured.

age, because pipes were
as no safety valve.

1 killed.

the days, and the boiler
h damage, because the
ere was no safety valve

3 injured.



meter. Pressure 30 to
flattened out and scattered
so as to show their
a very long time, and
the hundred line.

2 killed, 2 injured.

ubes 1ft. 10in. diameter,
ing boiler upwards by



The flat end was



to the centre, the



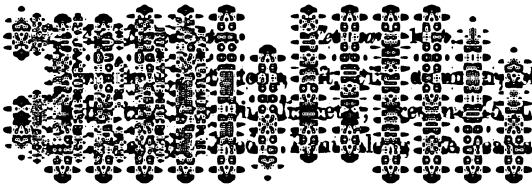
1 killed, 4 injured.



4 injured.

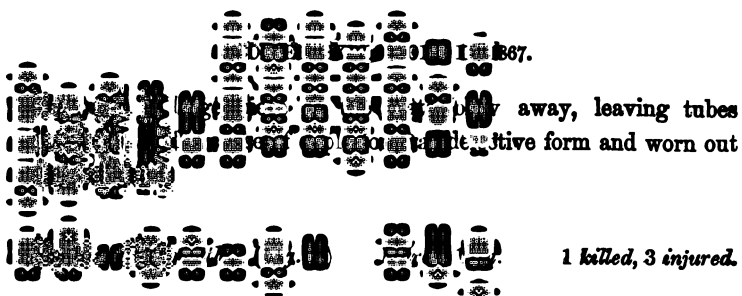


Tube collapsed
without injuring front
er, but most likely



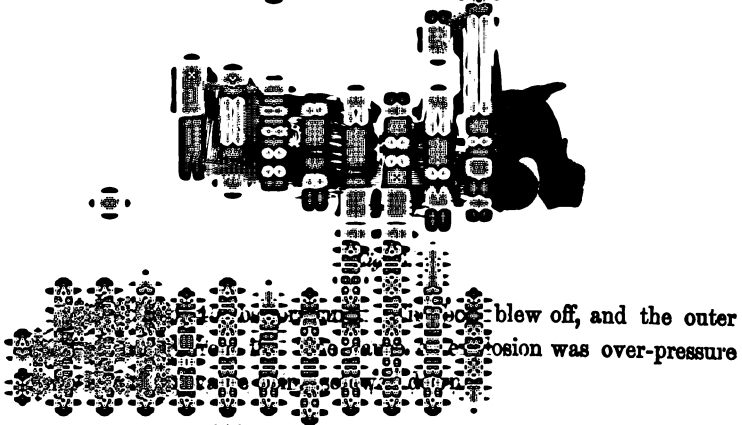
none injured.

lightly oval; plates
us. Shell had once
which were in one

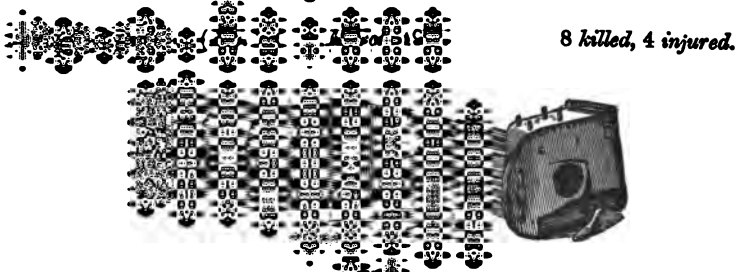


away, leaving tubes
in a brittle form and worn out

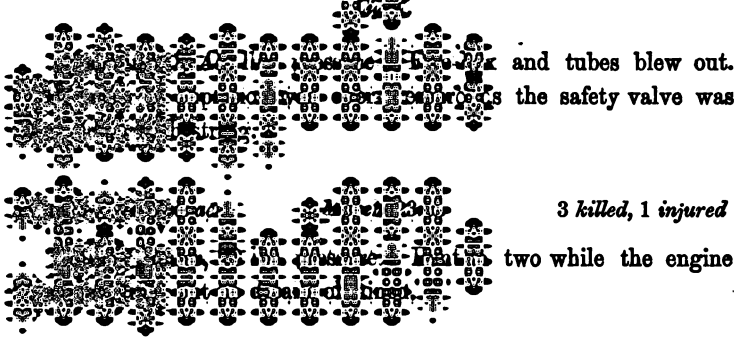
1 killed, 3 injured.



blew off, and the outer
osion was over-pressure



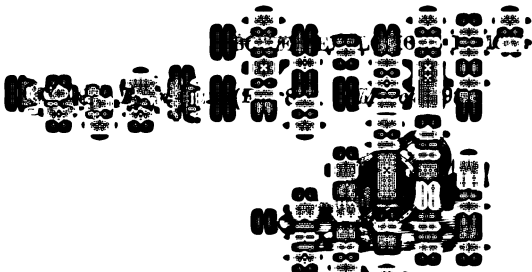
8 killed, 4 injured.



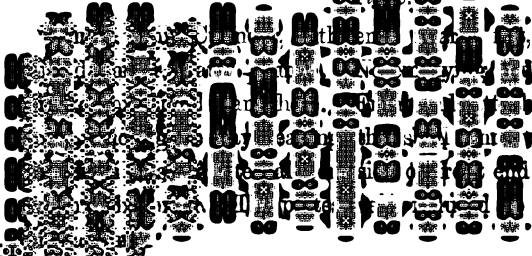
and tubes blew out.
the safety valve was

3 killed, 1 injured

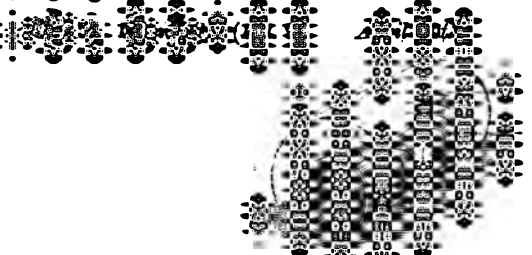
two while the engine



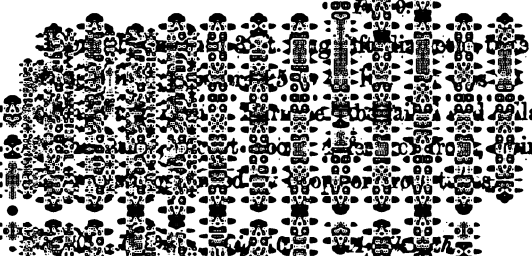
2 killed, 2 injured.



4ft. 7in. long, 2ft. 6in. high, or feed-pipe, and was cut by slight angle of the pipe. The cause of the accident was owing to very bad workmanship, a knife edge in line



1 killed, 1 injured.



3ft. 10in. diameter, 1 year old, but just collapsed from one end owing to its weakness,

1 killed, 2 injured.



at least $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, pressure

1867.

pressure, as the escape
in the exit pipe.

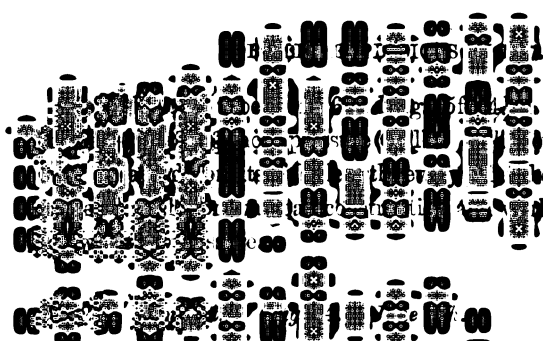
2 injured.

in diameter, plates $\frac{5}{8}$ inch,
material very inferior. Piece
of iron manifold to blow out
explosion was, the large
valve was too small, and

1 killed, 1 injured.

blown away and broken to
cause of explosion was
caused by its being made a
expansion, and thereby

4 injured.



diameter, tube 3ft.
ends came out and
being broken. The
kmanship, and tube

2 killed.

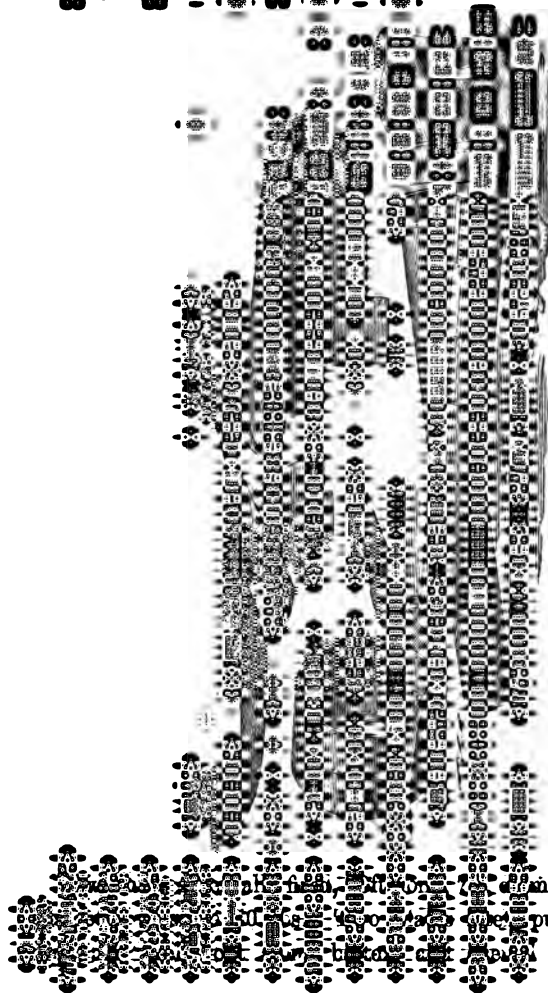
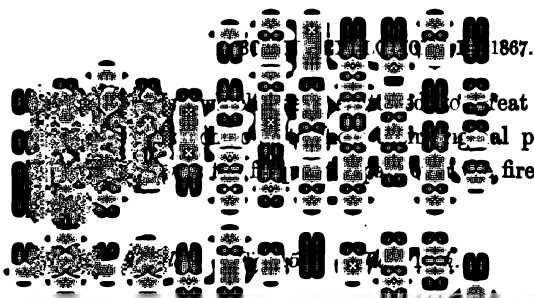


Fig. 14.

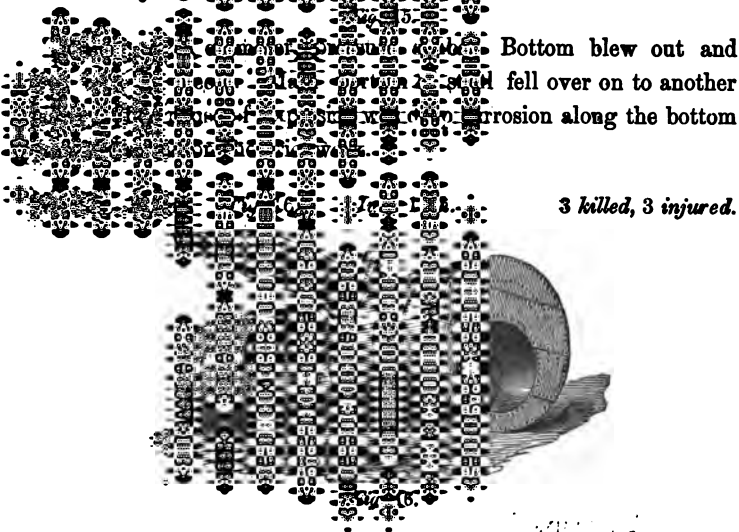
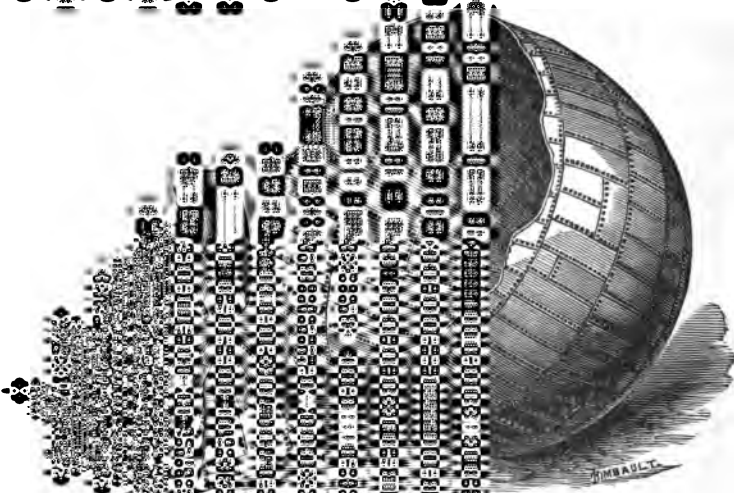
meter, tubes 2ft. 4in.
put in bottom gave
out, dividing into



1867.

to great distances, but are
in a normal position. The cause
of the explosion was the
fireplace, and external

1 killed, 2 injured.



Bottom blew out and
fell over on to another
causing corrosion along the bottom

3 killed, 3 injured.

(4)

diameter, tube 5ft.
ft. diameter at back,
central ring of plates
some distance by the
losion was corrosion
r than paper.

none injured.

tube 2ft. 7in., tapering
posed, and about the
from seam to seam.
cause the water was

1 injured.

of high top fire-box
likely the boiler being
for expansion.

1 killed, 2 injured.

steam and hot water
boiler through the

667.

7 killed, 3 injured.

Tube 1ft. 6in. diameter,
no stays. End plate
in back angle iron.
and want of stays, and

2 injured.

none injured.

mouth-piece of man-
allowed lid and upper

4 injured.

pipes placed in the flue.
boilers to be unseated.
of the explosion.

1 killed.

plates $\frac{3}{4}$ inch, tube underneath. Top to the front. The bottom where

none injured.

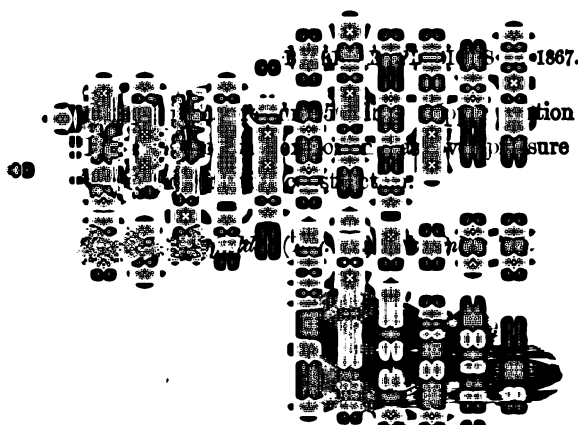
ft. 11in. diameter, for want of proper and throwing boiler

1 killed, 1 injured.

pressure 40 lbs. It was much patched. The boiler.

2 killed, 3 injured.

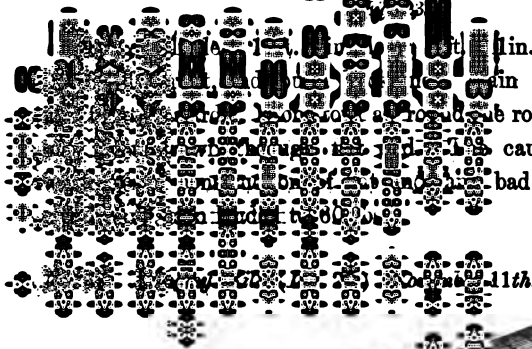
high, 2ft. 4in. wide,



1867.

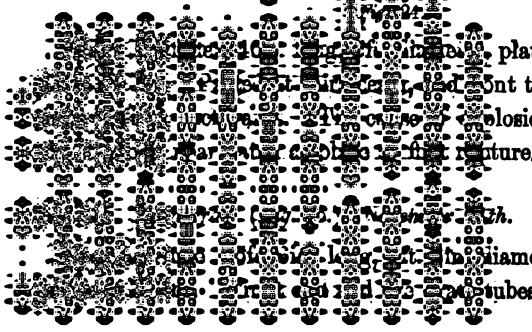
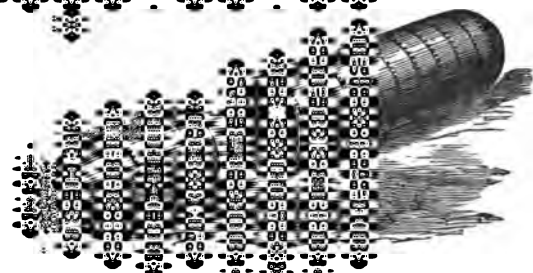
tion of barrel blew off.
 sure from locked safety

1 injured.



lin. diameter, pressure
 in portion thrown back
 the root of angle iron, and
 cause of explosion was
 bad safety valve, which

11th. 3 killed, 10 injured.

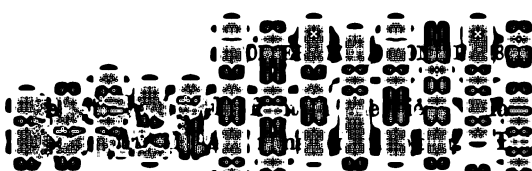


plates $\frac{1}{8}$ inch, pressure
 ont thrown forward and
 explosion was a seam-rip of
 nature.

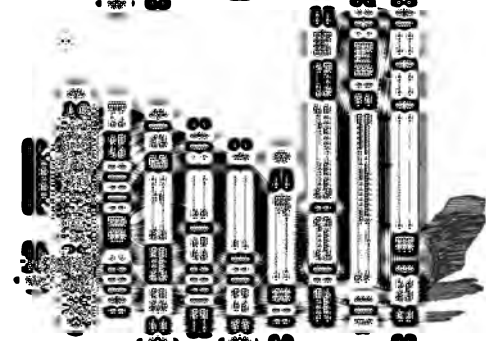
7th. 4 killed, 3 injured.

diameter, plates $\frac{1}{8}$ inch,
 tubes and taper junction





shell not injured.
bottom part of taper



fire tubes, collapsed
due to lack of proper stays or
bracing. There was only one



3 killed, 2 injured.



pressure 44 lbs. Tube
burst, plate and partially



1 killed.



1867.

plates $\frac{1}{8}$ inch, pressure
tube had been taken out,
at. Main shell thrown
thickness of construction in
to compensate for loss

none injured.

meter, tube 4ft. diameter,
collapsed for the whole
ruined.

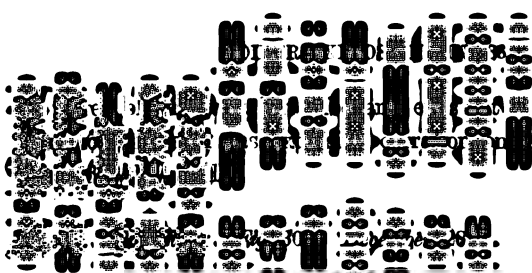
2 killed.

and a blank flange used to
without shutting the stop-
blew out when the bolts

23rd. *6 killed, 4 injured.*

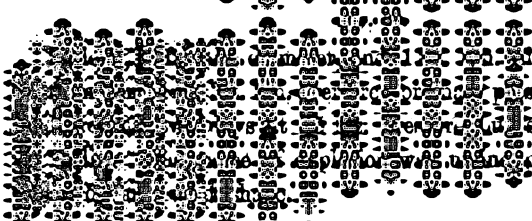
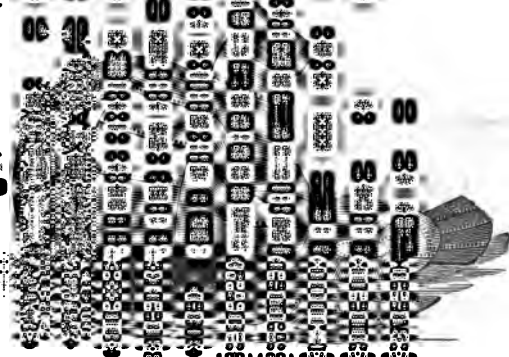


er, tube 3ft. 2in. diameter,
bottom, and two rings



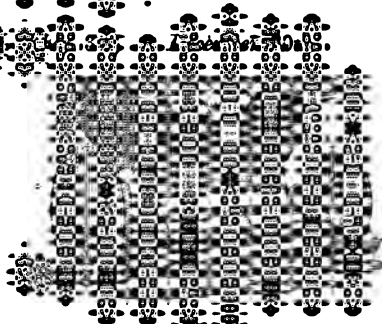
each injured. The
the part resting on

1 killed.



high, plates $\frac{3}{8}$ inch.
pressure 8 lbs. Boiler
safety valve loaded
pressure for an old

2 injured.



water, tubes 2ft. 7in.
and shell blown
The cause of

1867.

to a knife edge all along

2 killed, 1 injured.



diameter, plates $\frac{3}{8}$ inch,
a new plate had lately
rent, and back end
explosion was deterioration

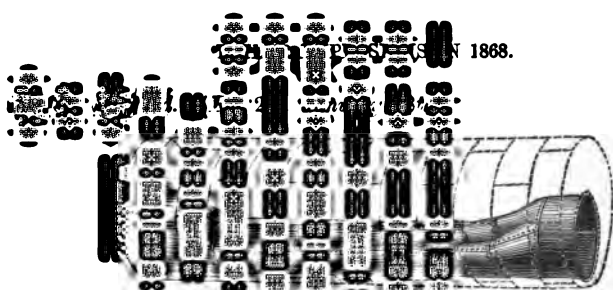
1868.

none injured.

at. diameter, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch
worn up, and all the
position. The cause
very old and much
ordinary pressure.
the entrance of the
to the weakness.

1 killed, 5 injured.

used for generating
ter, $\frac{1}{8}$ inch plates,
m, owing to inferior



1868.

1 killed.

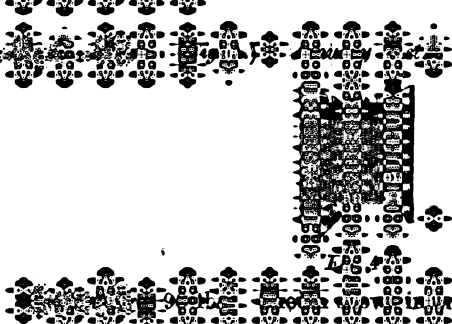
1. long, 6ft. 6in. diameter.
 1. lbs. pressure. The dotted
 line shows the collapsed from end to
 end owing to the weakness of so

1 killed.

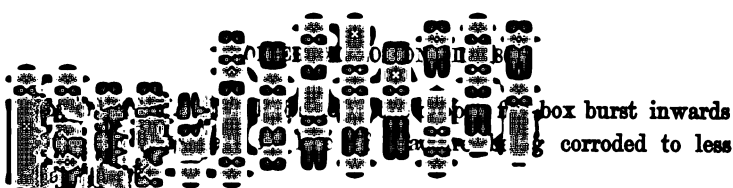


10in. diameter, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch
 In sketch the external
 view to be seen. The tube
 is rent open at one seam,
 although the boiler itself

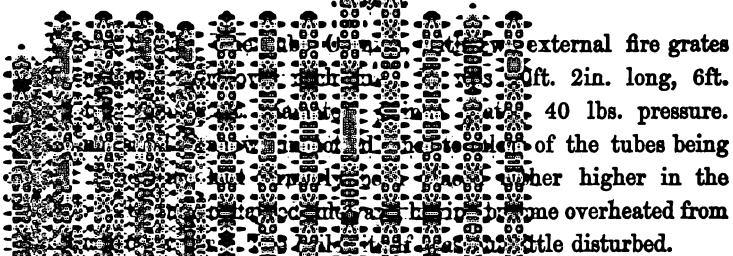
1 injured.



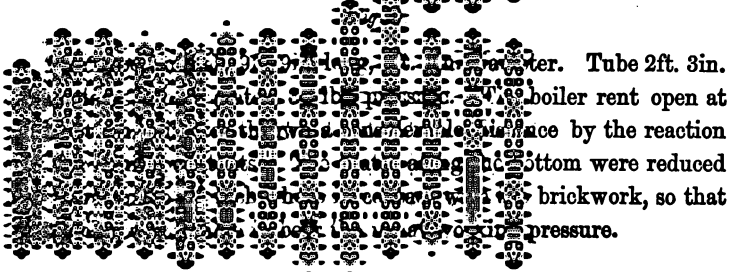
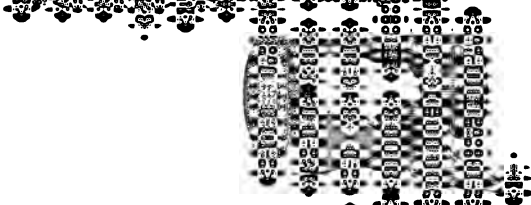
Interior view of fire-box with

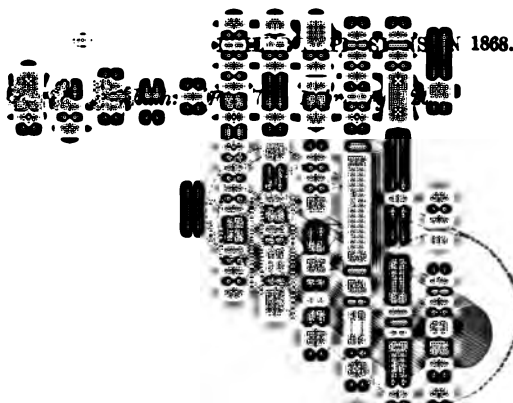


none injured.



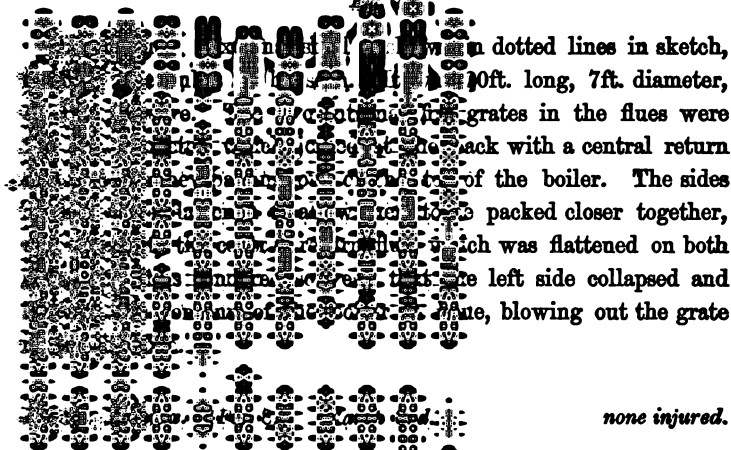
none injured.



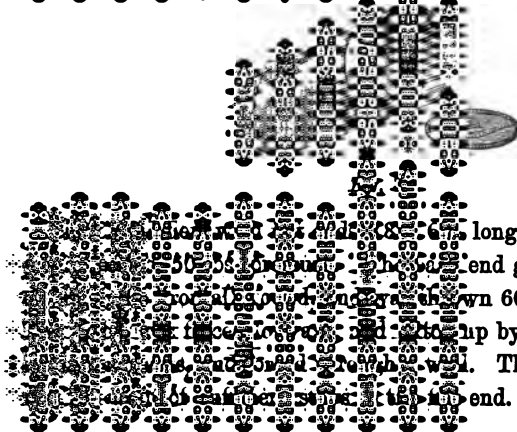


1868.

2 killed, 1 injured.



none injured.



... long, 3ft. 11in. diameter, ... end gave way at the root ... thrown 60 yards to the rear. ... by the reaction of the ... The cause of explosion ... end.



1 killed, 4 injured.

diameter, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch
 and scattered,
 improperly arranged
 lately put on, and
 wear, that it was

1 killed.

Particulars have been
 blown out and did
 not of proper stays.

1 injured.

4ft. 7in. diameter.
 pressure. The tube
 its weakness with

1 killed.

The collapsed, owing

nones injured.

34ft. long. Tube
 collapsed owing

DECEMBER 1868.

1 killed, 1 injured.

long, 1ft. 8in. diameter, at a faulty place at the flue, allowing the hot water to be disturbed.

1 killed.

with small return tube, 7ft. diameter, tube 2ft. 7in. diameter, burst and rent open owing to condition, and the contents were discharged to the boat.

2 killed, 2 injured.

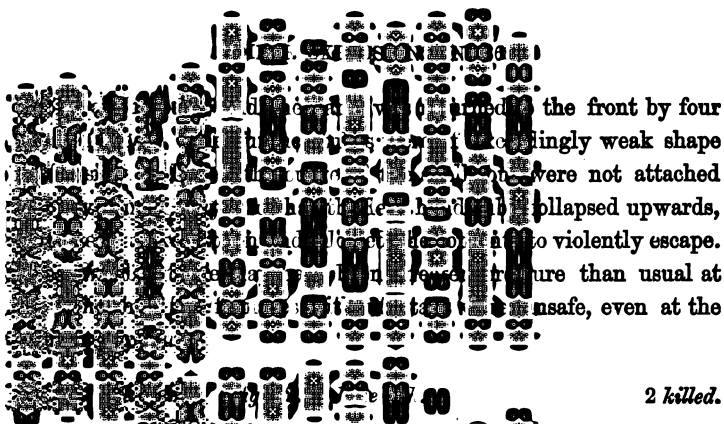
long, 3ft. diameter, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick, second-hand boiler, and rent burst, owing to its having

1 injured.

1ft. diameter, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch plates, burst and caused considerable damage to the distance. The end was

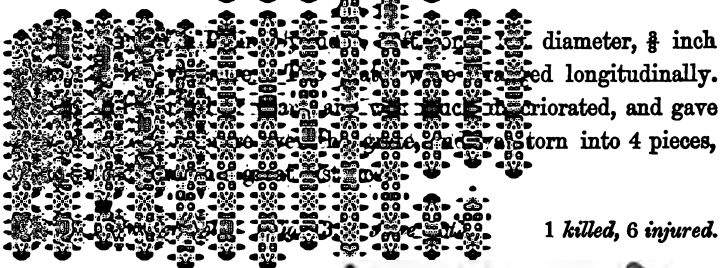
2 killed.

7ft. 2in. diameter, $\frac{5}{8}$ inch thick, two internal furnace tubes



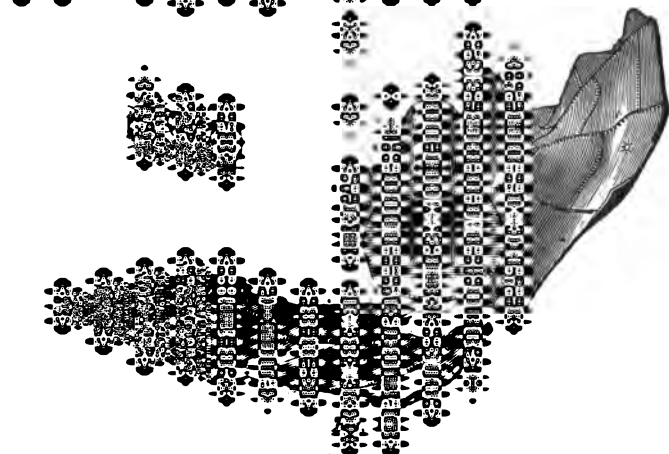
the front by four
exceedingly weak shape
were not attached
collapsed upwards,
to violently escape.
than usual at
unsafe, even at the

2 killed.



diameter, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch
ed longitudinally.
incised, and gave
torn into 4 pieces,

1 killed, 6 injured.



1868.

diameter. Tube 3ft. 3in.

The seams were arranged
the seams, but had torn
extensive corrosion had
and all the shell was blown
end for end.

none injured.

in. diameter. Tube 3ft.

Left hand tube collapsed
without strengthening rings.

6 injured.

diameter. Tube 2ft. 3in.

The shell was blown
intact. The bottom was
length of the boiler was so
pressure.


2 injured.

...diameter, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch
...out of the bottom,
...surrounding the
...in the line of
...weld joint.

1 killed, 1 injured.
...er, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch plates.
...pressure. Both
...through shortness

3 injured.
...inch plates, 130 lbs.
...The inside was
...row at the line of
...of the boiler in the
...substituting butt
...to alter the circular

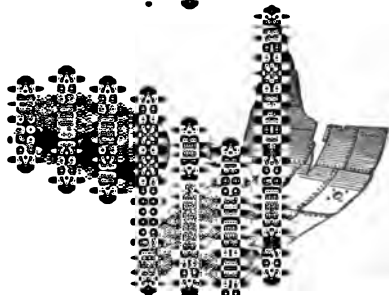
2 killed, 1 injured.
...The connecting rod
...pierced the boiler,
...near.

1 killed.


1868.
 in. long, 5ft. diameter,
 parted at a seam over
 town upwards and to a
 back part of the boiler was
 place at a seam-rip at the
 while the fire was being

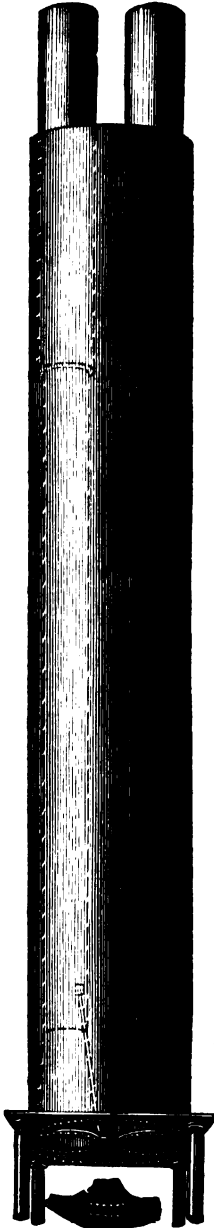
2 killed, 3 injured.
 rolling, by its own steam
 tra pressure of steam was
 was torn in pieces, and

1 killed.



g, 5ft. diameter, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch
 e way on the side where
 being too low, and the
 and thrown some distance
 y its remaining attached
 while the front end was
 was thrown also to the
 sam.

BOILER EXPLOSIONS IN 1868.



No. 31. *Liverpool.* (Fig. 17.) *August 20th.*
7 killed, 5 injured.

Two Furnace Chimney Boiler, 42ft. 4in. high, 6ft. 9in. diameter, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch plates, 50 lbs. pressure. Nearly half the bottom plate was blown out, and the issuing contents found their way into the furnace and increased the damage. The line of rupture near where it joined the shell was corroded almost to a knife edge, which so reduced its strength as to make it unable to bear the usual working pressure of steam, in addition to that of the column of water in the boiler.

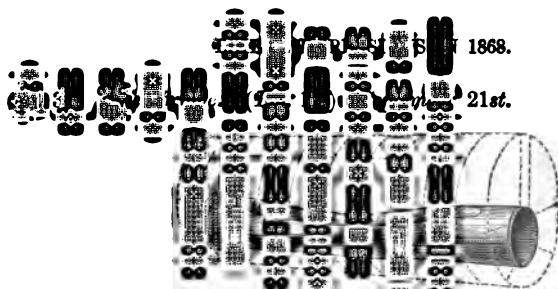
No. 32. *Accrington.* *August 31st.* *1 killed.*

A Kier or Steam Bleaching Chamber, somewhat like No. 2, and not used for generating steam, 9ft. high, 8ft. diameter, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch plates, 50 lbs. pressure. The bottom blew out, and the shell was torn to pieces. The cause of explosion was weakness of the ruptured end, and want of care in working.

No. 33. *Birmingham.* *September 11th.* *1 killed,*
1 injured.

Two tube Cornish. The manlid was wrongly fixed outside with internal clamps. It was being screwed up tighter to stop leaking when the bolt broke, and the lid came off and allowed the contents of the boiler to escape.

Fig. 17.

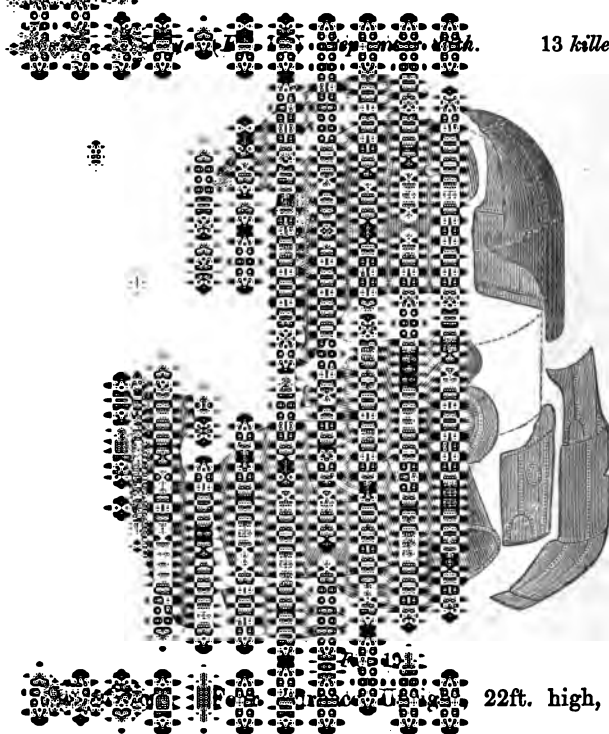


1868.

21st.

none injured.

18ft. 6in. long, 6ft. 6in.
 es, 40 lbs. pressure. In
 to allow the tube to be
 d and ruptured at two
 as to knock down the
 ube was in a very weak
 ear the usual working



13 killed, 2 injured.

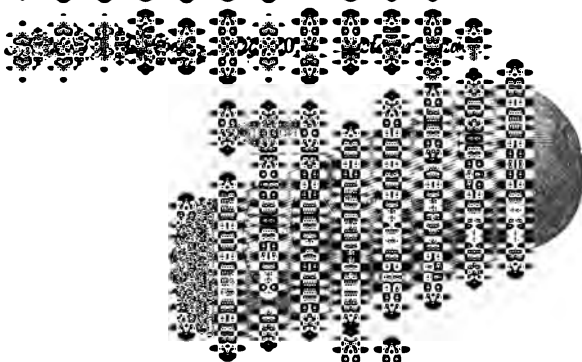
22ft. high, 10ft. 6in.

boiler was rent into
 dotted line in sketch
 and the fragments
 in original position. The
 furnace, from whence
 steam-rip must have
 have extended from
 as to be unable

1 killed.

The end over the
 A thick accumu-
 plate to become
 the water.

2 killed.



high, 7ft. diameter,
 of plate was blown
 by the issuing contents
 was said to be over-
 centre tubes were
 overheated from the
 rapid a generation

BOILER EXPLOSIONS IN 1868.

No. 38. Glasgow. October 12th. 1 killed, 1 injured.

Plain Cylinder, 39ft. long, 5ft. diameter, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch plates. A small piece of plate about one-and-half-feet area blew out of the bottom, and the contents issued so violently as to do much damage, although the boiler itself was not otherwise injured. The ruptured plate was corroded to $\frac{1}{8}$ inch thickness by the leaking of seams, caused by the feed water entering close to the bottom of the boiler.

No. 39. Swansea. October 13th. 2 killed, 1 injured.

One of twenty-four. One tube Cornish, worked by two furnaces, 23ft. long, 6ft. 6in. diameter. Tube 3ft 9in. diameter, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch plates, 40 lbs. pressure. The tube was divided by a wall down the middle. The tube collapsed sideways. It was said that one side was overheated through shortness of water, but it is more than probable the explosion was owing to the weakness of so large a tube without strengthening rings.

No. 40. Preston. October 16th. 2 injured.

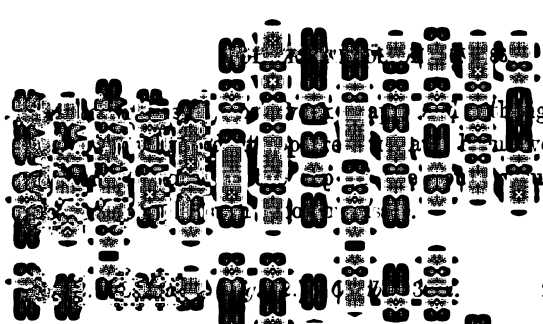
This was an arrangement of pipes, called an "Economiser," placed in the flues of a set of boilers for heating the feed water. It was shattered into fragments, causing considerable damage. As the whole apparatus was said to be in proper order, the explosion had been attributed to coal gas in the flues, and some peculiarities in the ruptured pipes bear out the supposition.

No. 41. London. (Fig. 21.) October 19th. 6 injured.



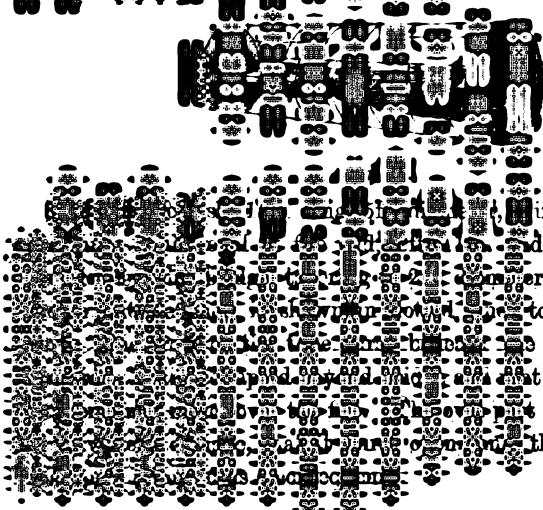
Fig. 21.

Kitchen Boiler, for supplying hot water to the top of a lofty house. It was rectangular, 3ft. 6in. wide, 2ft. 6in. high, and 1ft. deep. The front was blown out and caused considerable damage.

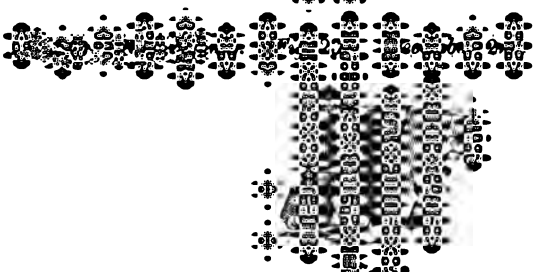


gh no pressure of
erlooked that the
uld give sufficient

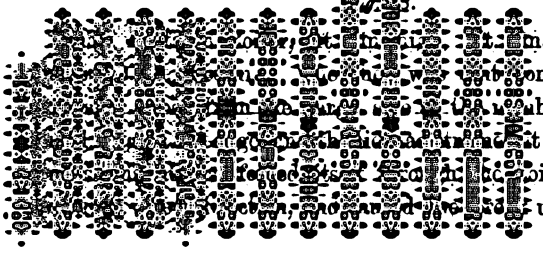
2 killed, 10 injured.



inch plates, 50 lbs.
de, 2ft. 6in. high.
er at back end. In
to allow tube to be
3 fire bars, and rent
at open at each side,
of the tube was of
the collapse of the



1 injured.

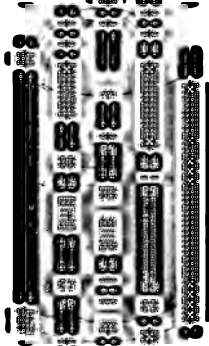


m. diameter, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch
completely off. The
hole, which had no
t and caused several
boiler, and the rents
up of the boiler.



1868.

3 killed, 3 injured.



diameter, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch plates.
 at bottom, 5ft. 3in.
 pressure. In the sketch
 the internal fire-box to be
 plates, many of which were
 as to the cause of the
 not very firmly stayed,
 by corrosion round the



1 injured.

at the back. The back
 only corroded, and allowed



the given which are not
 the list.



none injured.

long, 5ft. 6in. diameter,

allowed to get low,

the steam to escape

none injured.

high, 9ft. diameter,
as allowed to get so
the side tube slightly
the feed water had
aces without causing
had been put into a

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